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# The Earliest Arithmetics in English





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# The Earliest Arithmetics in English

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# The Earliest Arithmetics in English

EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION

BY

ROBERT STEELE



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## INTRODUCTION

THE number of English arithmetics before the sixteenth century is very small. This is hardly to be wondered at, as no one requiring to use even the simplest operations of the art up to the middle of the fifteenth century was likely to be ignorant of Latin, in which language there were several treatises in a considerable number of manuscripts, as shown by the quantity of them still in existence. Until modern commerce was fairly well established, few persons required more arithmetic than addition and subtraction, and even in the thirteenth century, scientific treatises addressed to advanced students contemplated the likelihood of their not being able to do simple division. On the other hand, the study of astronomy necessitated, from its earliest days as a science, considerable skill and accuracy in computation, not only in the calculation of astronomical tables but in their use, a knowledge of which latter was fairly common from the thirteenth to the sixteenth centuries.

The arithmetics in English known to me are :—

- (1) Bodl. 790 G. VII. (2653) f. 146–154 (15th c.) *inc.* “Of augrym ther be IX figures in numbray . . .” A mere unfinished fragment, only getting as far as Duplation.
- (2) Camb. Univ. LI. IV. 14 (III.) f. 121–142 (15th c.) *inc.* “Al maner of thyngis that prosedeth ffro the frist begynnyng . . .”
- (3) Fragmentary passages or diagrams in Sloane 213 f. 120–3 (a fourteenth-century counting board), Egerton 2852 f. 5–13, Harl. 218 f. 147 and
- (4) The two MSS. here printed; Eg. 2622 f. 136 and Ashmole 396 f. 48. All of these, as the language shows, are of the fifteenth century.

THE CRAFT OF NOMBRYNGE is one of a large number of scientific treatises, mostly in Latin, bound up together as Egerton MS. 2622 in the British Museum Library. It measures 7" × 5", 29–30 lines to the page, in a rough hand. The English is N.E. Midland in dialect. It is a translation and amplification of one of the numerous glosses on the *de algorismo* of Alexander de Villa Dei (c. 1220), such as that of

Thomas of Newmarket contained in the British Museum MS. Reg. 12, E. 1. A fragment of another translation of the same gloss was printed by Halliwell in his *Rara Mathematica* (1835) p. 29.\* It corresponds, as far as p. 71, l. 2, roughly to p. 3 of our version, and from thence to the end p. 2, ll. 16-40.

The ART OF NOMBRYNG is one of the treatises bound up in the Bodleian MS. Ashmole 396. It measures  $11\frac{1}{2}'' \times 17\frac{3}{4}''$ , and is written with thirty-three lines to the page in a fifteenth century hand. It is a translation, rather literal, with amplifications of the *de arte numerandi* attributed to John of Holywood (Sacrobosco) and the translator had obviously a poor MS. before him. The *de arte numerandi* was printed in 1488, 1490 (*s.n.*), 1501, 1503, 1510, 1517, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1582, and by Halliwell separately and in his two editions of *Rara Mathematica*, 1839 and 1841, and reprinted by Curze in 1897.

Both these tracts are here printed for the first time, but the first having been circulated in proof a number of years ago, in an endeavour to discover other manuscripts or parts of manuscripts of it, Dr. David Eugene Smith, misunderstanding the position, printed some pages in a curious transcript with four facsimiles in the *Archiv für die Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften und der Technik*, 1909, and invited the scientific world to take up the "not unpleasant task" of editing it.

ACCOMPTYNGE BY COUNTERS is reprinted from the 1543 edition of Robert Record's Arithmetic, printed by R. Wolfe. It has been reprinted within the last few years by Mr. F. P. Barnard, in his work on Casting Counters. It is the earliest English treatise we have on this variety of the Abacus (there are Latin ones of the end of the fifteenth century), but there is little doubt in my mind that this method of performing the simple operations of arithmetic is much older than any of the pen methods. At the end of the treatise there follows a note on merchants' and auditors' ways of setting down sums, and lastly, a system of digital numeration which seems of great antiquity and almost world-wide extension.

After the fragment already referred to, I print as an appendix the 'Carmen de Algorismo' of Alexander de Villa Dei in an enlarged and corrected form. It was printed for the first time by Halliwell in *Rara Mathematica*, but I have added a number of stanzas from

\* Halliwell printed the two sides of his leaf in the wrong order. This and some obvious errors of transcription—'ferye' for 'ferthe,' 'lest' for 'left,' etc., have not been corrected in the reprint on pp. 70-71.



various manuscripts, selecting various readings on the principle that the verses were made to scan, aided by the advice of my friend Mr. Vernon Rendall, who is not responsible for the few doubtful lines I have conserved. This poem is at the base of all other treatises on the subject in medieval times, but I am unable to indicate its sources.

### THE SUBJECT MATTER.

Ancient and medieval writers observed a distinction between the Science and the Art of Arithmetic. The classical treatises on the subject, those of Euclid among the Greeks and Boethius among the Latins, are devoted to the Science of Arithmetic, but it is obvious that coeval with practical Astronomy the Art of Calculation must have existed and have made considerable progress. If early treatises on this art existed at all they must, almost of necessity, have been in Greek, which was the language of science for the Romans as long as Latin civilisation existed. But in their absence it is safe to say that no involved operations were or could have been carried out by means of the alphabetic notation of the Greeks and Romans. Specimen sums have indeed been constructed by moderns which show its possibility, but it is absurd to think that men of science, acquainted with Egyptian methods and in possession of the abacus,\* were unable to devise methods for its use.

### THE PRE-MEDIEVAL INSTRUMENTS USED IN CALCULATION.

The following are known :—

(1) A flat polished surface or tablets, strewn with sand, on which figures were inscribed with a stylus.

(2) A polished tablet divided longitudinally into nine columns (or more) grouped in threes, with which counters were used, either plain or marked with signs denoting the nine numerals, etc.

(3) Tablets or boxes containing nine grooves or wires, in or on which ran beads.

(4) Tablets on which nine (or more) horizontal lines were marked, each third being marked off.

The only Greek counting board we have is of the fourth class and was discovered at Salamis. It was engraved on a block of marble, and measures 5 feet by  $2\frac{1}{2}$ . Its chief part consists of eleven parallel lines, the 3rd, 6th, and 9th being marked with a cross. Another section consists of five parallel lines, and there are three

\* For Egyptian use see Herodotus, ii. 36, Plato, *de Legibus*, VII.

rows of arithmetical symbols. This board could only have been used with counters (*calculi*), preferably unmarked, as in our treatise of *Accomptynge by Counters*.

#### CLASSICAL ROMAN METHODS OF CALCULATION.

We have proof of two methods of calculation in ancient Rome, one by the first method, in which the surface of sand was divided into columns by a stylus or the hand. Counters (*calculi*, or *lapilli*), which were kept in boxes (*loculi*), were used in calculation, as we learn from Horace's schoolboys (Sat. 1. vi. 74). For the sand see Persius I. 131, "Nec qui abaco numeros et secto in pulvere metas scit risisse," Apul. Apolog. 16 (*pulvisculo*), Mart. Capella, lib. vii. 3, 4, etc. Cicero says of an expert calculator "eruditum attigisse pulverem," (de nat. Deorum, ii. 18). Tertullian calls a teacher of arithmetic "primus numerorum arenarius" (de Pallio, *in fine*). The counters were made of various materials, ivory principally, "Adeo nulla uncia nobis est eboris, etc." (Juv. XI. 131), sometimes of precious metals, "Pro calculis albis et nigris aureos argenteosque habebat denarios" (Pet. Arb. Satyricon, 33).

There are, however, still in existence four Roman counting boards of a kind which does not appear to come into literature. A typical one is of the third class. It consists of a number of transverse wires, broken at the middle. On the left hand portion four beads are strung, on the right one (or two). The left hand beads signify units, the right hand one five units. Thus any number up to nine can be represented. This instrument is in all essentials the same as the Swanpan or Abacus in use throughout the Far East. The Russian *stchota* in use throughout Eastern Europe is simpler still. The method of using this system is exactly the same as that of *Accomptynge by Counters*, the right-hand five bead replacing the counter between the lines.

#### THE BOETHIAN ABACUS.

Between classical times and the tenth century we have little or no guidance as to the art of calculation. Boethius (fifth century), at the end of lib. II. of his *Geometria* gives us a figure of an abacus of the second class with a set of counters arranged within it. It has, however, been contended with great probability that the whole passage is a tenth century interpolation. As no rules are given for its use, the chief value of the figure is that it gives the signs of the



nine numbers, known as the Boethian "apices" or "notae" (from whence our word "notation"). To these we shall return later on.

#### THE ABACISTS.

It would seem probable that writers on the calendar like Bede (A.D. 721) and Helpericus (A.D. 903) were able to perform simple calculations; though we are unable to guess their methods, and for the most part they were dependent on tables taken from Greek sources. We have no early medieval treatises on arithmetic, till towards the end of the tenth century we find a revival of the study of science, centring for us round the name of Gerbert, who became Pope as Sylvester II. in 999. His treatise on the use of the Abacus was written (c. 980) to a friend Constantine, and was first printed among the works of Bede in the Basle (1563) edition of his works, I. 159, in a somewhat enlarged form. Another tenth century treatise is that of Abbo of Fleury (c. 988), preserved in several manuscripts. Very few treatises on the use of the Abacus can be certainly ascribed to the eleventh century, but from the beginning of the twelfth century their numbers increase rapidly, to judge by those that have been preserved.

The Abacists used a permanent board usually divided into twelve columns; the columns were grouped in threes, each column being called an "arcus," and the value of a figure in it represented a tenth of what it would have in the column to the left, as in our arithmetic of position. With this board counters or jetons were used, either plain or, more probably, marked with numerical signs, which with the early Abacists were the "apices," though counters from classical times were sometimes marked on one side with the digital signs, on the other with Roman numerals. Two ivory discs of this kind from the Hamilton collection may be seen at the British Museum. Gerbert is said by Richer to have made for the purpose of computation a thousand counters of horn; the usual number of a set of counters in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was a hundred.

Treatises on the Abacus usually consist of chapters on Numeration explaining the notation, and on the rules for Multiplication and Division. Addition, as far as it required any rules, came naturally under Multiplication, while Subtraction was involved in the process of Division. These rules were all that were needed in Western Europe in centuries when commerce hardly existed, and astronomy was unpractised, and even they were only required in the preparation

of the calendar and the assignments of the royal exchequer. In England, for example, when the hide developed from the normal holding of a household into the unit of taxation, the calculation of the geldage in each shire required a sum in division; as we know from the fact that one of the Abacists proposes the sum: "If 200 marks are levied on the county of Essex, which contains according to Hugh of Bocland 2500 hides, how much does each hide pay?"\* Exchequer methods up to the sixteenth century were founded on the abacus, though when we have details later on, a different and simpler form was used.

The great difficulty of the early Abacists, owing to the absence of a figure representing zero, was to place their results and operations in the proper columns of the abacus, especially when doing a division sum. The chief differences noticeable in their works are in the methods for this rule. Division was either done directly or by means of differences between the divisor and the next higher multiple of ten to the divisor. Later Abacists made a distinction between "iron" and "golden" methods of division. The following are examples taken from a twelfth century treatise. In following the operations it must be remembered that a figure asterisked represents a counter taken from the board. A zero is obviously not needed, and the result may be written down in words.

(a) MULTIPLICATION.  $4600 \times 23$ .

Thousands					
Hundreds	Tens	Units	Hundreds	Tens	Units
		4	6		
		1	8		
	1	2			
	1	2			
	8				
1		5	8		
				2	3

**Multiplicand.**

$600 \times 3$ .

$4000 \times 3$ .

$600 \times 20$ .

$4000 \times 20$ .

Total product.

**Multiplier.**

\* See on this Dr. Poole, *The Exchequer in the Twelfth Century*, Chap. III., and Haskins, *Eng. Hist. Review*, 27, 101. The hidage of Essex in 1130 was 2364 hides.



(b) **DIVISION: DIRECT.**  $100,000 \div 20,023$ . Here each counter in turn is a separate divisor.

Thousands					
H.	T.	U.	H.	T.	U.
	2			2	3
1	2				
	2				
	1	9	1	9	
				8	
	1	9	9	2	
				1	2
	1	9	9		8
					4

**Divisors.**

Place greatest divisor to right of dividend.

**Dividend.**

Remainder.

Another form of same.

Product of 1st Quotient and 20.

Remainder.

Product of 1st Quotient and 3.

**Final remainder.**

Quotient.

(c) **DIVISION BY DIFFERENCES.**  $900 \div 8$ . Here we divide by (10-2).

	H.	T.	U.
			2
			8
	*9		
	*1	8	
		2	
	*1		
		2	
			4
			2
		1	
		1	
		9	
	1	1	2

Difference.

Divisor.

**Dividend.**

Product of difference by 1st Quotient (9).

Product of difference by 2nd Quotient (1).

Sum of 8 and 2.

Product of difference by 3rd Quotient (1).

Product of difference by 4th Quot. (2). **Remainder.**

4th Quotient.

3rd Quotient.

2nd Quotient.

1st Quotient.

**Quotient. (Total of all four.)**

\* These figures are removed at the next step.

DIVISION.  $7800 \div 166$ .

Thousands					
H.	T.	U.	H.	T.	U.
				3	4
			1	6	6
		*7	8		
		1			
			1	2	
			9		
		*2	8	2	
			3	4	
		*1	1	6	
				2	
			1	5	
			*3	3	
			1		
				3	4
			1	6	4
					1
					5
				1	
				3	
				4	6

Differences (making 200 trial divisor).

Divisors.

**Dividends.**

Remainder of greatest dividend.

Product of 1st difference (4) by 1st Quotient (3).

Product of 2nd difference (3) by 1st Quotient (3).

New dividends.

Product of 1st and 2nd difference by 2nd Quotient (1).

New dividends.

Product of 1st difference by 3rd Quotient (5).

Product of 2nd difference by 3rd Quotient (5).

New dividends.

Remainder of greatest dividend.

Product of 1st and 2nd difference by 4th Quotient (1).

**Remainder** (less than divisor).

4th Quotient.

3rd Quotient.

2nd Quotient.

1st Quotient.

**Quotient.**

\* These figures are removed at the next step.



DIVISION.  $8000 \div 606$ .

Thousands					
H.	T.	U.	H.	T.	U.
				9	
					4
			6		6
		*8			
		1			
			9	4	
		*1	9	4	
			3		
				9	4
		*1	3	3	4
			3		
				9	4
			7	2	8
			6		6
			1	2	2
					1
					1
					1
				1	
			1	3	

Difference (making 700 trial divisor).

Difference.

Divisors.

**Dividend.**

Remainder of dividend.

Product of difference 1 and 2 with 1st Quotient (1).

New dividends.

Remainder of greatest dividend.

Product of difference 1 and 2 with 2nd Quotient (1).

New dividends.

Remainder of greatest dividend.

Product of difference 1 and 2 with 3rd Quotient (1).

New dividends.

Product of divisors by 4th Quotient (1).

**Remainder.**

4th Quotient.

3rd Quotient.

2nd Quotient.

1st Quotient.

**Quotient.**

\* These figures are removed at the next step.

The chief Abacists are Gerbert (tenth century), Abbo, and Hermannus Contractus (1054), who are credited with the revival of the art, Bernelinus, Gerland, and Radulphus of Laon (twelfth century). We know as English Abacists, Robert, bishop of Hereford, 1095, "abacum et lunarem compotum et celestium cursum astrorum rimatus," Turchillus Compotista (Thurkil), and through him of Guilielmus R. . . . "the best of living computers," Gislebert, and Simonus de Rotellis (Simon of the Rolls). They flourished most probably in the

first quarter of the twelfth century, as Thurkil's treatise deals also with fractions. Walcher of Durham, Thomas of York, and Samson of Worcester are also known as Abacists.

Finally, the term Abacists came to be applied to computers by manual arithmetic. A MS. Algorithm of the thirteenth century (Sl. 3281, f. 6, b), contains the following passage: "Est et alius modus secundum operadores sive practicos, quorum unus appellatur Abacus; et modus ejus est in computando per digitos et junctura manuum, et iste utitur ultra Alpes."

In a composite treatise containing tracts written A.D. 1157 and 1208, on the calendar, the abacus, the manual calendar and the manual abacus, we have a number of the methods preserved. As an example we give the rule for multiplication (Claud. A. IV., f. 54 vo). "Si numerus multiplicat alium numerum auferatur differentia majoris a minore, et per residuum multiplicetur articulus, et una differentia per aliam, et summa proveniet." Example,  $8 \times 7$ . The difference of 8 is 2, of 7 is 3, the next article being 10;  $7-2$  is 5.  $5 \times 10 = 50$ ;  $2 \times 3 = 6$ .  $50 + 6 = 56$  answer. The rule will hold in such cases as  $17 \times 15$  where the article next higher is the same for both, *i. e.*, 20; but in such a case as  $17 \times 9$  the difference for each number must be taken from the higher article, *i. e.*, the difference of 9 will be 11.

#### THE ALGORISTS.

Algorithm (augrim, augrym, algram, agram, algorithm), owes its name to the accident that the first arithmetical treatise translated from the Arabic happened to be one written by Al-Khowarazmi in the early ninth century, "de numeris Indorum," beginning in its Latin form "Dixit Algorismi. . . ." The translation, of which only one MS. is known, was made about 1120 by Adelard of Bath, who also wrote on the Abacus and translated with a commentary Euclid from the Arabic. It is probable that another version was made by Gerard of Cremona (1114-1187); the number of important works that were not translated more than once from the Arabic decreases every year with our knowledge of medieval texts. A few lines of this translation, as copied by Halliwell, are given on p. 72, note 2. Another translation still seems to have been made by Johannes Hispalensis.

Algorithm is distinguished from Abacist computation by recognising seven rules, Addition, Subtraction, Duplation, Mediation, Multiplication, Division, and Extraction of Roots, to which were afterwards



added Numeration and Progression. It is further distinguished by the use of the zero, which enabled the computer to dispense with the columns of the Abacus. It obviously employs a board with fine sand or wax, and later, as a substitute, paper or parchment; slate and pencil were also used in the fourteenth century, how much earlier is unknown.\* Algorism quickly ousted the Abacus methods for all intricate calculations, being simpler and more easily checked: in fact, the astronomical revival of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries would have been impossible without its aid.

The number of Latin Algorisms still in manuscript is comparatively large, but we are here only concerned with two—an Algorism in prose attributed to Sacrobosco (John of Holywood) in the colophon of a Paris manuscript, though this attribution is no longer regarded as conclusive, and another in verse, most probably by Alexander de Villedieu (Villa Dei). Alexander, who died in 1240, was teaching in Paris in 1209. His verse treatise on the Calendar is dated 1200, and it is to that period that his Algorism may be attributed; Sacrobosco died in 1256 and quotes the verse Algorism. Several commentaries on Alexander's verse treatise were composed, from one of which our first tractate was translated, and the text itself was from time to time enlarged, sections on proofs and on mental arithmetic being added. We have no indication of the source on which Alexander drew; it was most likely one of the translations of Al-Khowarazmi, but he has also the Abacists in mind, as shewn by preserving the use of differences in multiplication. His treatise, first printed by Halliwell-Phillipps in his *Rara Mathematica*, is adapted for use on a board covered with sand, a method almost universal in the thirteenth century, as some passages in the algorism of that period already quoted show: "Est et alius modus qui utitur apud Indos, et doctor hujusmodi ipsos erat quidem nomine Algas. Et modus suus erat in computando per quasdam figuras scribendo in pulvere. . . ." "Si voluerimus depingere in pulvere predictos digitos secundum consuetudinem algorismi . . ." "et sciendum est quod in nullo loco minutorum sive secundorum . . . in pulvere debent scribi plusquam sexaginta."

#### MODERN ARITHMETIC.

Modern Arithmetic begins with Leonardi Fibonacci's treatise "de Abaco," written in 1202 and re-written in 1228. It is modern

\* Slates are mentioned by Chaucer, and soon after (1410) Prosdocimo de Beldamandi speaks of the use of a "lapis" for making notes on by calculators.

rather in the range of its problems and the methods of attack than in mere methods of calculation, which are of its period. Its sole interest as regards the present work is that Leonardi makes use of the digital signs described in Record's treatise on *The arte of nombrynge by the hand* in mental arithmetic, calling it "modus Indorum." Leonardo also introduces the method of proof by "casting out the nines."

#### DIGITAL ARITHMETIC.

The method of indicating numbers by means of the fingers is of considerable age. The British Museum possesses two ivory counters marked on one side by carelessly scratched Roman numerals IIIV and VIIII, and on the other by carefully engraved digital signs for 8 and 9. Sixteen seems to have been the number of a complete set. These counters were either used in games or for the counting board, and the Museum ones, coming from the Hamilton collection, are undoubtedly not later than the first century. Frohner has published in the *Zeitschrift des Münchener Alterthumsvereins* a set, almost complete, of them with a Byzantine treatise; a Latin treatise is printed among Bede's works. The use of this method is universal through the East, and a variety of it is found among many of the native races in Africa. In medieval Europe it was almost restricted to Italy and the Mediterranean basin, and in the treatise already quoted (Sloane 3281) it is even called the Abacus, perhaps a memory of Fibonacci's work.

Methods of calculation by means of these signs undoubtedly have existed, but they were too involved and liable to error to be much used.

#### THE USE OF "ARABIC" FIGURES.

It may now be regarded as proved by Bubnov that our present numerals are derived from Greek sources through the so-called Boethian "apices," which are first found in late tenth century manuscripts. That they were not derived directly from the Arabic seems certain from the different shapes of some of the numerals, especially the 0, which stands for 5 in Arabic. Another Greek form existed, which was introduced into Europe by John of Basingstoke in the thirteenth century, and is figured by Matthew Paris (V. 285); but this form had no success. The date of the introduction of the zero has been hotly debated, but it seems obvious that the twelfth century Latin translators from the Arabic were



perfectly well acquainted with the system they met in their Arabic text, while the earliest astronomical tables of the thirteenth century I have seen use numbers of European and not Arabic origin. The fact that Latin writers had a convenient way of writing hundreds and thousands without any cyphers probably delayed the general use of the Arabic notation. Dr. Hill has published a very complete survey of the various forms of numerals in Europe. They began to be common at the middle of the thirteenth century and a very interesting set of family notes concerning births in a British Museum manuscript, Harl. 4350 shows their extension. The first is dated Mij. lviij., the second Mij. lxi., the third Mij. 63, the fourth 1264, and the fifth 1266. Another example is given in a set of astronomical tables for 1269 in a manuscript of Roger Bacon's works, where the scribe began to write MCC6. and crossed out the figures, substituting the "Arabic" form.

#### THE COUNTING BOARD.

The treatise on pp. 52-65 is the only one in English known on the subject. It describes a method of calculation which, with slight modifications, is current in Russia, China, and Japan, to-day, though it went out of use in Western Europe by the seventeenth century. In Germany the method is called "*Algorithmus Linealis*," and there are several editions of a tract under this name (with a diagram of the counting board), printed at Leipsic at the end of the fifteenth century and the beginning of the sixteenth. They give the nine rules, but "*Capitulum de radicum extractione ad algorithmum integrorum reservato, ejus species per ciffrales figuras ostenduntur ubi ad plenum de hac tractabitur.*" The invention of the art is there attributed to Appulegius the philosopher.

The advantage of the counting board, whether permanent or constructed by chalking parallel lines on a table, as shown in some sixteenth-century woodcuts, is that only five counters are needed to indicate the number nine, counters on the lines representing units, and those in the spaces above representing five times those on the line below. The Russian abacus, the "*tchatui*" or "*stchota*" has ten beads on the line; the Chinese and Japanese "*Swanpan*" economises by dividing the line into two parts, the beads on one side representing five times the value of those on the other. The "*Swanpan*" has usually many more lines than the "*stchota*," allowing for more extended calculations, see Tylor, *Anthropology* (1892), p. 314.

Record's treatise also mentions another method of counter notation (p. 64) "merchants' casting" and "auditors' casting." These were adapted for the usual English method of reckoning numbers up to 200 by scores. This method seems to have been used in the Exchequer. A counting board for merchants' use is printed by Halliwell in *Rara Mathematica* (p. 72) from Sloane MS. 213, and two others are figured in Egerton 2622 f. 82 and f. 83. The latter is said to be "novus modus computandi secundum inventionem Magistri Thome Thorleby," and is in principle, the same as the "Swanpan."

The Exchequer table is described in the *Dialogus de Scaccario* (Oxford, 1902), p. 38.



The Earliest Arithmetics  
in English.



# The Crafte of Nombryng.

Egerton 2622.

<sup>1</sup> **H**Ec algorismus ars presens dicitur; in qua  
Talibus indorum fruimur bis quinque figuris.

<sup>1</sup> leaf 136 a.

This boke is called þe boke of algorym, or Augrym after lewder  
4 vse. And þis boke tretys þe Craft of Nombryng, þe quych crafte  
is called also Algorym. Ther was a kyng of Inde, þe quich heyth  
Algor, & he made þis craft. And after his name he called hit  
algorym; or els anoper cause is quy it is called Algorym, for þe  
8 latyn word of hit s. Algorismus comes of Algos, grece, *quid est*  
ars, latine, craft on englis, and rides, *quid est numerus*, latine, A  
nombur on englys, inde dicitur Algorismus per addicionem huius  
sillabe mus & subtraccionem d & e, quasi ars numerandi. ¶ Forther-  
12 more 3e most vnderstonde þat in þis craft ben vsid teen figurys,  
as here bene writen for ensampul,  $\phi$  9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1. ¶ Expone  
þe too versus afore: this present craft ys called Algorismus, in þe  
quych we vse teen signys of Inde. Questio. ¶ Why ten figuris  
16 of Inde? Solucio. for as I haue sayd afore þai were fonde fyrst  
in Inde of a kynge of þat Cuntre, þat was called Algor.

A derivation  
of Algorism.

Another  
derivation of  
the word.

¶ Prima significat unum; duo vero secunda:

versus [in  
margin].

¶ Tercia significat tria; sic procede sinistre.

¶ Donec ad extremam venias, que cifra vocatur.

¶ Capitulum primum de significacione figurarum.

Expositio  
versus.

In þis verse is notifide þe significacion of pese figuris. And þus  
expone the verse. þe first signifyth one, þe secunde signifieth  
24 tweyne, þe thryd signifyth thre, & the fourte signifyth 4. ¶ And  
so forthe towarde þe lyft syde of þe tabul or of þe boke þat þe  
figures bene writene in, til þat þou come to the last figure, þat is

<sup>2</sup> leaf 136 b.

The meaning  
and place of  
the figures.



Which figure  
is read first.

called a cifre. ¶ Questio. In quych syde sittes þe first figure? Solucio, forsothe loke quich figure is first in þe ryzt side of þe bok or of þe tabul, & þat same is þe first figure, for þou schal write bakeward, as here, 3. 2. 6. 4. 1. 2. 5. The figure of 5. was first write, & he is þe first, for he sittes on þe riȝt syde. And the figure of 3 is last. ¶ Neuer-þe-les wen he says ¶ Prima significat vnum &c., þat is to say, þe first betokenes one, þe secunde. 2. & fore-þer-more, he vnderstonde noȝt of þe first figure of euery rew. ¶ But he vnderstonde þe first figure þat is in þe nombur of þe forsayd teen figuris, þe quych is one of þese. 1. And þe secunde 2. & so forth.

versus [in  
margin].

¶ Quelibet illarum si primo limite ponas, 12  
¶ Simpliciter se significat: si vero secundo,  
Se decies: sursum procedas multiplicando.  
¶ Namque figura sequens quamuis signat decies plus.  
¶ Ipsa locata loco quam significat pertinente. 16

Expositio [in  
margin].

An explana-  
tion of the  
principles of  
notation.

1 leaf 137 a.

An example:  
units,

tens,

hundreds,

thousands.

¶ Expone þis verse þus. Euery of þese figuris bitokens hym selfe & no more, yf he stonde in þe first place of þe rewele / this worde Simpliciter in þat verse it is no more to say but þat, & no more. ¶ If it stonde in the secunde place of þe rewle, he 20 betokens tene tymes hym selfe, as þis figure 2 here 20 tokens ten tyme hym selfe, <sup>1</sup>þat is twenty, for he hym selfe betokenes tweyne, & ten tymes twene is twenty. And for he stondis on þe lyft side & in þe secunde place, he betokens ten tyme hym 24 selfe. And so go forth. ¶ ffor euery figure, & he stonde aftur a-noȝer toward the lyft side, he schal betokene ten tymes as mich more as he schul betoken & he stode in þe place þere þat þe figure a-fore hym stondes. loo an ensampulle. 9. 6. 3. 4. þe 28 figure of 4. þat hase þis schape 4. betokens bot hymselfe, for he stondes in þe first place. The figure of 3. þat hase þis schape 3. betokens ten tymes more þen he schuld & he stode þere þat þe figure of 4. stondes, þat is thretty. The figure of 6, þat hase 32 þis schape 6, betokens ten tymes more þan he schuld & he stode þere as þe figure of 3. stondes, for þere he schuld tokyne bot sixty, & now he betokens ten tymes more, þat is sex hundryth. The figure of 9. þat hase þis schape 9. betokens ten tymes more 36 þane he schuld & he stode in þe place þere þe figure of sex stondes, for þen he schuld betoken to 9. hundryth, and in þe place þere he stondes now he betokens 9. þousande. Al þe hole nombur is 9 thousande sex hundryth & foure & thretty. ¶ fforthermore, when 40

pou schalt rede a nombur of figure, pou schalt begyne at þe last figure in the lyft side, & rede so forth to þe riȝt side as here 9. 6. How to read the number.

3. 4. Thou schal begyn to rede at þe figure of 9. & rede forth þus. 9. <sup>1</sup>thousand sex hundryth thritty & foure. But when pou <sup>1</sup> leaf 137 b. schalle write, pou schalt be-gynne to write at þe ryȝt side.

¶ Nil cifra significat sed dat signare sequenti.

Expone þis verse. A cifre tokens noȝt, bot he makes þe figure 8 to betoken þat comes aftur hym more þan he schuld & he were away, as þus 1φ. here þe figure of one tokens ten, & yf þe cifre were away<sup>2</sup> & no figure by-fore hym he schuld token bot one, for þan he schuld stonde in þe first place. ¶ And þe cifre tokens 12 nothyng hym selfe. for al þe nombur of þe ylike too figures is bot ten. ¶ Questio. Why says he þat a cifre makys a figure to signifye (tyf) more &c. ¶ I speke for þis worde significatyf, ffor sothe it may happe aftur a cifre schuld come a-nopur cifre, as þus 2φφ. And 16 ȝet þe secunde cifre schuld token neuer þe more excep he schuld kepe þe order of þe place. and a cifre is no figure significatyf.

¶ Quam precedentes plus ultima significabit /

Expone þis verse þus. þe last figure schal token more þan alle 20 þe oþer afore, thouȝt þere were a hundryth thousand figures afore, as þus, 16798. þe last figure þat is 1. betokens ten thousand. And alle þe oþer figures ben bot betokene bot sex thousand seyne hundryth nynty & 8. ¶ And ten thousand is more þen alle þat 24 nombur, ergo þe last figure tokens more þan all þe nombur afore.

<sup>3</sup> ¶ Post predicta scias breuiter quod tres numerorum

<sup>3</sup> leaf 138 a.

Distincte species sunt; nam quidam digiti sunt;

Articuli quidam; quidam quoque compositi sunt.

28 ¶ Capitulum 2<sup>m</sup> de triplice divisione numerorum.

¶ The auctor of þis tretis departys þis worde a nombur into 3 partes. Some nombur is called digitus latine, a digit in englys. Digits. Somme nombur is called articulus latine. An Articul in englys. Articles. 32 Some nombur is called a composyt in englys. ¶ Expone þis verse. Composites. know pou aftur þe forsayd rewles þat I sayd afore, þat þere ben thre spices of nombur. Oone is a digit, Anoþer is an Articul, & þe toþer a Composyt. versus.

36 ¶ Sunt digiti numeri qui citra denarium sunt.

¶ Here he telles qwat is a digit, Expone versus sic. Nomburs digitus bene alle nomburs þat ben with-inne ten, as nyne, 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1. What are digits.

<sup>2</sup> In MS. 'awiy.'

¶ **Articupli decupli degitorum; compositi sunt Illi qui constant ex articulis degitisque.**

¶ Here he telles what is a composyt and what is an<sup>e</sup> articul.  
 Expone sic *versus*. ¶ **Articulis** ben<sup>1</sup> alle pat may be deuidynt in- 4  
 to nomburs of ten & nothyng leue ouer, as twenty, thretty, forty,  
 a hundryth, a thousand, & such oper, ffor twenty may be departyt  
 in-to 2 nomburs of ten, fforty in to foure nomburs of ten, & so forth.  
 2 leaf 138 b. 2 **Compositys** ben nomburs pat bene componyt of a dygt & of an 8  
 articulle as fouretene, fyftene, sextene, & such oper. ffortene is  
 componyd of foure pat is a digit & of ten pat is an articulle.  
 ffiftene is componyd of 5 & ten, & so of all oper, what pat pai ben.  
 Short-lych euery nombur pat be-gynnes with a digit & endyth in a 12  
 articulle is a composyt, as fortene bygennyng by foure pat is a  
 digit, & endes in ten.

¶ **Ergo, proposito numero tibi scribere, primo Respicias quid sit numerus; si digitus sit Primo scribe loco digitum, si compositus sit Primo scribe loco digitum post articulum; sic.** 16

How to write a number, ¶ here he telles how pou schalt wyre whan pou schalt write a nombur. Exponit *versum* sic, & fac iuxta exponentis sentenciam; 20  
 whan pou hast a nombur to write, loke fyrst what maner nombur  
 it ys pat pou schalt write, whether it be a digit or a composit or an  
 Articul. ¶ If he be a digit, write a digit, as yf it be seuen, write  
 if it is a digit; seuen & write pat digit in pe first place toward pe ryght side. If it 24  
 be a composyt, write pe digit of pe composit in pe first place &  
 if it is a composite, write pe articul of pat digit in pe secunde place next toward pe lyft  
 side. As yf pou schal write sex & twenty. write pe digit of pe  
 nombur in pe first place pat is sex, and write pe articul next aftur 28  
 pat is twenty, as pus 26. But whan pou schalt sowne or speke  
 3 or rede an Composyt pou schalt first sowne pe articul & aftur pe  
 digit, as pou seyst by pe comyne speche, Sex & twenty & nouzt  
 twenty & sex. *versus*. 32

¶ **Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram, Articulum vero reliquis inscribere figuris.**

How to write Articles: ¶ Here he tells how pou schal write when pe nombre pat pou hase to write is an Articul. Exponit *versus* sic & fac *secundum* 36  
 sentenciam. Ife pe nombur pat pou hast write be an Articul, write  
 first a cifre & aftur pe cifer write an Articulle pus. 2φ. fforther-  
 tens, more pou schalt vnderstonde yf pou haue an Articul, loke how

<sup>1</sup> 'ben' repeated in MS.



mych he is, yf he be *with-ynne* an hundryth, þou schalt write bot one cifre, afore, as here .9ϕ. If þe articulle be by hym-silfe & he an hundrid euene, þen schal þou write .1. & 2 cifers afore, þat he may stonde in þe thryd place, for euery figure in þe thryd place schal token a hundrid tymes hym selfe. If þe articul be a thousand or thousandes<sup>1</sup> and he stonde by hym selfe, write afore 3 cifers & so forþ of al oþer.

- 8 ¶ *Quolibet in numero, si par sit prima figura, Par erit & totum, quicquid sibi continuatur; Impar si fuerit, totum tunc fiet et impar.*

¶ Here he teches a generalle rewle þat yf þe first figure in þe rewle of figures token a nombur þat is euene al þat nombur of figurys in þat rewle schal be euene, as here þou may see 6. 7. 3. 5. 4. Computa & proba. ¶ If þe first <sup>2</sup>figure token an nombur þat is ode, alle þat nombur in þat rewle schalle be ode, as here 5 6 7 8 6 7. <sup>2</sup> leaf 139 b. or an odd.

16 Computa & proba. versus.

- ¶ *Septem sunt partes, non plures, istius artis; Addere, subtrahere, duplare, dimidiare, Sextaque diuidere, sed quinta multiplicare; Radicem extrahere pars septima dicitur esse.*
- 20

¶ Here telles þat þer ben .7. spices or partes of þis craft. The first is called addicioñ, þe secunde is called subtraccioñ. The thryd is called duplacioñ. The 4. is called dimydicioñ. The 5. is called multiplicacioñ. The 6 is called diuision. The 7. is called extraccioñ of þe Rote. What all þese spices bene hit schalle be tolde singillatim in here capitule.

24

- ¶ *Subtrahis aut addis a dextris vel mediabis:*

28 Thou schal be-gynne in þe ryght side of þe boke or of a tabul. loke were þou wul be-gynne to write latyn or englys in a boke, & þat schall be called þe lyft side of the boke, þat þou writest toward þat side schal be called þe ryght side of þe boke. Versus.

- 32 *A leua dupla, diuide, multiplica.*

Here he telles þe in quych side of þe boke or of þe tabul þou schalle be-gyne to wrych duplacioñ, diuision, and multiplicacioñ. Thou schal begyne to worch in þe lyft side of þe boke or of þe tabul, but yn what wyse þou schal wrych in hym dicetur singillatim in sequentibus capitulis et de vtilitate cuiuslibet artis & sic Completur <sup>3</sup>prohemium & sequitur tractatus & primo de arte addicionis que prima ars est in ordine.

36

<sup>1</sup> In MS. 'thausandes.'

thousands, &c.

To tell an even number

<sup>2</sup> leaf 139 b. or an odd.

The seven rules.

Add, subtract, or halve, from right to left.

Multiply or divide from left to right.

<sup>3</sup> leaf 140.

**A**ddere si numero numerum vis, ordine tali  
 Incipe; scribe duas primo series numerorum  
 Primam sub prima recte ponendo figuram,  
 Et sic de reliquis facias, si sint tibi plures.

4

Four things  
 must be  
 known:

¶ Here by-gynnes þe craft of Addicioñ. ~ In þis craft þou most knowe foure thynges. ¶ Fyrst þou most know what is addicioñ. Next þou most know how many rewles of figurys þou most haue.

what it is;

¶ Next þou most know how many diuers casys happes in þis craft of addicioñ. ¶ And next qwat is þe profet of þis craft. ¶ As for þe first þou most know þat addicioñ is a castyng to-gedur of twoo nomburys in-to one nombre. As yf I aske qwat is twene & thre. þou wyl cast þese twene nombres to-gedur & say þat it is fyue. 12

how many  
 rows of  
 figures;

¶ As for þe secunde þou most know þat þou schalle haue tweyne rewes of figures, one vndur a-nother, as here þou mayst se. 1234

how many  
 cases;

¶ As for þe thryd þou most know þat there ben foure diuerse 2168.

what is its  
 result.

cases. As for þe forthe þou most know þat þe profet of þis craft is 16 to telle what is þe hole nombur þat comes of diuerse nomburis. Now as to þe texte of oure verse, he teches there how þou schal worch in þis craft. ¶ He says yf þou wilt cast one nombur to anoþer nombur, þou most by-gynne on þis wyse. ¶ ffyrst write 20  
 1 two rewes of figuris & nombris so þat þou write þe first figure of þe hyer nombur euene vndir the first figure of þe nether nombur, And þe secunde of þe nether nombur euene vndir þe secunde of þe hyer, & so forthe of euery figure of both þe rewes as þou mayst se 123 24  
 234.

1 leaf 140 b.

How to set  
 down the  
 sum.

¶ Inde duas adde primas hac condicione:

Si digitus crescat ex addicione priorum;

Primo scribe loco digitum, quicunque sit ille.

Add the first  
 figures;

¶ Here he teches what þou schalt do when þou hast write too 28  
 rewes of figuris on vnder an-oper, as I sayd be-fore. ¶ He says þou schalt take þe first figure of þe heyer nombre & þe fyrst figure of þe neþer nombre, & cast heñ to-geder vp-on þis condicion. Thou schal loke qweþer þe number þat comys þere-of be a digit or no. 32

rub out the  
 top figure;

¶ If he be a digit þou schalt do away þe first figure of þe hyer nombre, and write þere in his stede þat he stode Inne þe digit, þat comes of þe ylke 2 figures, & so wrich forth on ȝer figures yf þere be ony moo, til þou come to þe ende toward þe lyft side. And 36  
 lede þe nether figure stonde still euer-more til þou haue ydo. ffor þere-by þou schal wyte wheþer þou hast done wel or no, as I schal tell þe afterward in þe ende of þis Chapter. ¶ And loke allgate

write the  
 result in its  
 place.

2 leaf 141 a.

þat þou be-gynne to worch in þis Craft of Addicioñ in þe ryzt side, 40

here is an ensampul of þis case <sup>1234</sup> Caste 2 to foure & þat wel be sex, do away 4. & write in þe <sup>2142</sup> same place þe figure of sex. Here is an example.

¶ And lete þe figure of 2 in þe nether rewe stonde stil. When 4 þou hast do so, cast 3 & 4 to-geder and þat wel be seuen þat is a digit. Do away þe 3, & set þere seuen, and lete þe neþer figure stonde stille, & so worch forth bakward til þou hast ydo all to-geder.

**Et si compositus, in limite scribe sequente**

8 **Articulum, primo digitum; quia sic iubet ordo.**

¶ Here is þe secunde case þat may happe in þis craft. And þe case is þis, yf of þe casting of 2 nomburis to-geder, as of þe figure of þe hyer rewe & of þe figure of þe neþer rewe come a Composyt, how Suppose it is a Composite, set down the digit, and carry the tens. 12 schalt þou worch. þus þou schalt worch. Thou shalt do away þe figure of þe hyer number þat was cast to þe figure of þe neþer number. ¶ And write þere þe digit of þe Composyt. And set þe articul of þe composit next after þe digit in þe same rewe, yf þere 16 be no mo figures after. But yf þere be mo figuris after þat digit. And þere he schall be rekend for hym selfe. And when þou schalt adde þat ylke figure þat berys þe articulle ouer his hed to þe figure vnder hym, þou schalt cast þat articul to þe figure þat hase hym ouer 20 his hed, & þere þat Articul schal token hym selfe. lo an Ensampull <sup>1</sup> of all 326. Cast 6 to 6, & þere-of wil arise twelue. do away þe hyer 6 <sup>216</sup> & write þere 2, þat is þe digit of þis composit. And þen write þe articulle þat is ten ouer þe figuris hed of twene 24 as þus <sup>1</sup> <sub>322</sub> Now cast þe articulle þat standus vpon þe figuris of twene <sup>216</sup> hed to þe same figure, & reken þat articul bot for one, and þan þere wil arise thre. þan cast þat thre to þe neþer figure, þat is one, & þat wul be foure. do away þe figure of 3, and write 28 þere a figure of foure. and lete þe neþer figure stonde stil, & þan worch forth. vnde versus. Here is an example. 1 leaf 141 b.

¶ **Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram,**

¶ **Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris,**

32 **Vel per se scribas si nulla figura sequatur.**

¶ Here he puttes þe thryde case of þe craft of Addicion. & þe case is þis. yf of Addicion of 2 figuris a-ryse an Articulle, how schal þou do. thou most do away þe heer figure þat was addid to 36 þe neþer, & write þere a cifre, and sett þe articuls on þe figuris hede, yf þat þere come ony after. And wrych þan as I haue tolde þe in þe secunde case. An ensampull <sup>25</sup> Cast 5 to 5, þat wylle be ten. now do away þe hyer 5, & <sup>15</sup> write þere a cifer. And 40 sette ten vpon þe figuris hed of 2. And reken it but for on þus. lo Suppose it is an Article, set down a cipher and carry the tens.



<sup>1</sup> leaf 142 a. an Ensampulle  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2\phi \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$  And <sup>1</sup>pan worch forth. But yf *pere* come no  
 Here is an example. figure after *pe*  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$  cifre, write *pe* articul next hym in *pe* same rewe  
 as here  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$  cast 5 to 5, and it wel be ten. do away 5. *pat* is *pe*  
 hier 5.  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$  and write *pere* a cifre, & write after hym *pe* articul as 4  
*pus*  $\begin{bmatrix} 1\phi \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$  And *pan* *pou* hast done.

¶ Si tibi cifra superueniens occurrerit, illam  
 Dele superpositam; fac illic scribe figuram,  
 Postea procedas reliquas addendo figuras.

8

What to do  
 when you  
 have a cipher  
 in the top  
 row.

An example  
 of all the  
 difficulties.

¶ Here he puttes *pe* fourt case, & it is *pis*, *pat* yf *pere* come a  
 cifer in *pe* hier rewe, how *pou* schal do. *pus* *pou* schalt do. do  
 away *pe* cifer, & sett *pere* *pe* digit *pat* comes of *pe* addicioun as *pus* 12  
 1ϕ84. In *pis* ensampul ben alle *pe* foure cases. Cast 3 to foure,  
 17743 *pat* wol be seuē. do away 4. & write *pere* seuē; *pan* cast  
 4 to *pe* figure of 8. *pat* wel be 12. do away 8, & sett *pere* 2. *pat* is  
 a digit, and sette *pe* articul of *pe* composit, *pat* is ten, vpon *pe* cifers 16  
 hed, & reken it for hym selfe *pat* is on. *pan* cast one to a cifer, &  
 hit wulle be but on, for nozt & on makes but one. *pan* cast 7. *pat*  
 stondes vnder *pat* on to hym, & *pat* wel be 8. do away *pe* cifer &  
*pat* 1. & sette *pere* 8. *pan* go forthermore. cast *pe* o<sup>per</sup> 7 to *pe* cifer 20  
*pat* stondes ouer hym. *pat* wul be bot seuē, for *pe* cifer betokens  
<sup>2</sup> leaf 142 b. nozt. do away *pe* cifer & sette *pere* seuē, <sup>2</sup>& *pen* go for<sup>per</sup>more  
 & cast 1 to 1, & *pat* wel be 2. do away *pe* hier 1, & sette *pere* 2.  
*pan* hast *pou* do. And yf *pou* haue wel ydo *pis* number *pat* is sett 24  
 here-after wel be *pe* number *pat* schalle aryse of alle *pe* addicion as  
 here 27827. ¶ Sequitur alia species.

A numero numerum si sit tibi demere cura  
 Scribe figurarum series, vt in addicione.

28

Four things  
 to know  
 about sub-  
 traction:

the first;

the second;

the third;

the fourth.

¶ This is *pe* Chapter of subtraccion, in the quych *pou* most  
 know foure nessessary thynges. the first what is subtraccion. *pe*  
 secunde is how many numbers *pou* most haue to subtraccion, the  
 thryd is how many maners of cases *pere* may happe in *pis* craft of 32  
 subtraccion. The fourte is qwat is *pe* profet of *pis* craft. ¶ As for  
*pe* first, *pou* most know *pat* subtraccion is drawynge of one  
 nowmber oute of ano<sup>per</sup> number. As for *pe* secunde, *pou* most  
 knowe *pat* *pou* most haue two rewes of figuris one vnder ano<sup>per</sup>, as 36  
*pou* addyst in addicion. As for *pe* thryd, *pou* moyst know *pat*  
 foure maner of diuerse casis mai happe in *pis* craft. ¶ As for *pe*  
 fourt, *pou* most know *pat* *pe* profet of *pis* craft is whenne *pou* hasse  
 taken *pe* lasse number out of *pe* more to telle what *pere* leues ouer 40

þat. & þou most be-gynne to wyrch in þis craft in þe ryght side of þe boke, as þou diddyst in addicion. Versus.

¶ *Maiori numero numerum suppose minorem,*

4 ¶ *Siue pari numero supponatur numerus par.*

1 ¶ Here he telles þat þe hier number most be more þen þe neþer, <sup>1 leaf 143 a.</sup> or els euen as mych. but he may not be lasse. And þe case is þis, þou schalt drawe þe neþer number out of þe hyer, & þou mayst <sup>Put the greater number above the less.</sup> 8 not do þat yf þe hier number were lasse þan þat. ffor þou mayst not draw sex out of 2. But þou mast draw 2 out of sex. And þou maiste draw twene out of twene, for þou schal leue nozt of þe hier twene vnde versus.

12 ¶ *Postea si possis a prima subtrahere primam*

*Scribens quod remanet.*

Here is þe first case put of subtraccion, & he says þou schalt <sup>The first case of subtraction.</sup> begynne in þe ryght side, & draw þe first figure of þe neþer rewe 16 out of þe first figure of þe hier rewe. qwether þe hier figure be more þen þe neþer, or euen as mych. And þat is notified in þe vers when he says "Si possis." Whan þou has þus ydo, do away þe hiest figure & sett þere þat leues of þe subtraccion, lo an Ensampulle <sup>Here is an example.</sup> 20 

234
122

 draw 2 out of 4. þan leues 2. do away 4 & write þere 2, & latte þe neþer figure stonde stille, & so go for-by oþer figuris till þou come to þe ende, þan hast þou do.

¶ *Cifram si nil remanebit.*

24 ¶ Here he puttes þe secunde case, & hit is þis. yf it happe þat <sup>Put a cipher if nothing remains.</sup> qwen þou hast draw on neþer figure out of a hier, & þere leue nozt after þe subtraccion, þus <sup>2 leaf 143 b.</sup> 2 þou schalt do. þou schalle do away þe hier figure & write þere a cifer, as lo an Ensampull 

24
24

 Take foure <sup>Here is an example.</sup> 28 out of foure þan leus nozt. þefore do away 

24
24

 þe hier 4 & set þere a cifer, þan take 2 out of 2, þan leues nozt. do away þe hier 2, & set þere a cifer, and so worch whare so euer þis happe.

*Sed si non possis a prima demere primam*

32 *Precedens vnum de limite deme sequente,*

*Quod demptum pro denario reputabis ab illo*

*Subtrahere totalem numerum quem proposuisti*

*Quo facto scribe super quicquid remanebit.*

36 Here he puttes þe thryd case, þe quych is þis. yf it happe þat <sup>Suppose you cannot take the lower figure from the top one, borrow ten;</sup> þe neþer figure be more þen þe hier figure þat he schalle be draw out of. how schalle þou do. þus þou schalle do. þou schalle borro .i. oute of þe next figure þat comes after in þe same rewe, for þis case 40 may neuer happ but yf þere come figures after. þan þou schalt sett

take the  
lower number  
from ten;

add the  
answer to  
the top  
number.

<sup>1</sup> leaf 144 a.

Example.

How to  
'Pay back'  
the borrowed  
ten.

<sup>2</sup> leaf 144 b.

A very hard  
case is put.

þat on ouer þe hier figures hed, of the quych þou woldist y-draw  
oute þe neyper figure yf þou haddyst y-myzt. Whane þou hase  
þus ydo þou schalle rekene þat .1. for ten. ¶ And out of þat ten  
þou schal draw þe neypermost figure, And alle þat leues þou schalle 4  
adde to þe figure on whos hed þat .1. stode. And þen þou schalle  
do away alle þat, & sett þere alle that arisys of the addicion of þe  
ylke 2 figuris. And yf yt <sup>1</sup>happe þat þe figure of þe quych þou  
schalt borro on be hym self but 1. If þou schalt þat one & sett it 8  
vppon þe oþer figuris hed, and sett in þat 1. place a cifer, yf þere  
come mony figures after. lo an Ensampul. 

2122
1134

 take 4 out of 2.  
it wyl not be, þerfore borro one of þe next figure, þat is 2. and  
sett þat ouer þe hed of þe fyrst 2. & rekene it for ten. and þere þe 12  
secunde stondes write 1. for þou tokest on out of hym. þan take  
þe neyper figure, þat is 4, out of ten. And þen leues 6. cast to 6 þe  
figure of þat 2 þat stode vnder þe hedde of 1. þat was borwed &  
rekened for ten, and þat wyll be 8. do away þat 6 & þat 2, & 16  
sette þere 8, & lette þe neyper figure stonde stille. Whanne þou hast  
do þus, go to þe next figure þat is now bot 1. but first yt was 2, &  
þere-of was borred 1. þan take out of þat þe figure vnder hym, þat  
is 3. hit wel not be. þerfore borowe of the next figure, þe quych is 20  
bot 1. Also take & sett hym ouer þe hede of þe figure þat þou  
woldest haue y-draw oute of þe nether figure, þe quych was 3. &  
þou myzt not, & rekene þat borwed 1 for ten & sett in þe same  
place, of þe quych place þou tokest hym of, a cifer, for he was bot 1. 24  
Whanne þou hast þus ydo, take out of þat 1. þat is re kent for ten,  
þe neyper figure of 3. And þere leues 7. <sup>2</sup>cast þe ylke 7 to þe figure  
þat had þe ylke ten vpon his hed, þe quych figure was 1, & þat wol  
be 8. þan do away þat 1 and þat 7, & write þere 8. & þan wyre 28  
forth in oþer figuris til þou come to þe ende, & þan þou hast þe do.  
Versus.

¶ *Facque nonenarios de cifris, cum remeabis*

¶ *Occurrant si forte cifre; dum dempseris vnum* 32

¶ *Postea procedas reliquas demendo figuras.*

¶ Here he puttes þe fourte case, þe quych is þis, yf it happe þat  
þe neyper figure, þe quych þou schalt draw out of þe hier figure be  
more þan þe hier figur ouer hym, & þe next figure of two or of 36  
thre or of foure, or how mony þere be by cifers, how wold þou do.  
þou wost wel þou most nede borow, & þou mayst not borow of þe  
cifers, for þai haue nozt þat þai may lene or spare. Ergo<sup>3</sup> how

<sup>3</sup> Perhaps "So."



woldest þou do. Certayn þus most þou do, þou most borow on of þe next figure significatyf in þat rewe, for þis case may not happe, but yf þere come figures significatyf after the cifers. When þou 4 hast borowede þat 1 of the next figure significatyf, sett þat on ouer þe hede of þat figure of þe quych þou wold haue draw þe neþer figure out yf þou hadest myzt, & reken it for ten as þou diddest in þe oper case here-a-fore. Whan þou hast þus y-do loke how 8 mony cifers þere were bye-twene þat figure significatyf, & þe figure of þe quych þou woldest haue y-draw the <sup>1</sup>neþer figure, and of euery of þe ylke cifers make a figure of 9. lo an Ensampulle after. 

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<sup>1 leaf 145 a.</sup> Here is an example.  
Take 4 out of 2. it wel not be. borow 1 out of þe next figure

12 significatyf, þe quych is 4, & þen leues 3. do away þat figure of 4 & write þere 3. & sett þat 1 vpon þe figure of 2 hede, & þan take 4 out of ten, & þan þere leues 6. Cast 6 to the figure of 2, þat wol be 8. do away þat 6 & write þere 8. Whan þou hast þus y-do 16 make of euery 0 betweyn 3 & 8 a figure of 9, & þan worch forth in goddes name. & yf þou hast wel y-do þou<sup>2</sup> schalt haue þis number

¶ *Si subtraccio sit bene facta probare valebis*

*Quas subtraxisti primas addendo figuras.*

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Sic.

20 ¶ Here he teches þe Craft how þou schalt know, whan þou hast subtrayd, wheþer þou hast wel ydo or no. And þe Craft is þis, ryght as þou subtrayd þe neþer figures fro þe hier figures, ryzt so adde þe same neþer figures to þe hier figures. And yf þou haue 24 well y-wroth a-fore þou schalt haue þe hier nombre þe same þou haddest or þou be-gan to worch. as for þis I bade þou schulde kepe þe neþer figures styлле. lo an <sup>3</sup>Ensampulle of alle þe 4 cases togedre. worche welle þis case 

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 And yf þou worch welle 28 whan þou hast alle subtrayd þe þat hier nombre here, þis schalle be þe nombre here foloyng whan þou hast subtrayd

How to prove a subtraction sum.

<sup>3</sup> leaf 145 b.

Here is an example.

32 

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 And þou schalt know þus. adde þe neþer rewe of þe same nombre to þe hier rewe as þus, cast 4 to 4. þat wol 36 be 8. do away þe 4 & write þere 8. by þe first case of addicion. þan cast 6 to 0 þat wol be 6. do away þe 0, & write þere 6. þan cast 6 to 8, þat wel be 14. do away 8 & write þere a figure of 4, þat is þe digit, and write a figure of 1. þat schall be-token ten. þat is þe articul vpon þe hed of 8 next after, þan reken þat 1. for 1. & cast it to 8. þat schal be 9. cast to þat 9 þe neþer figure vnder þat þe quych is 4, & þat schalle be 13. do away þat 9 & sett þere 3, & sett a figure of 1. þat schall be 10 vpon þe next figuris hede þe

Our author makes a slip here (3 for 1).

<sup>2</sup> 'hali' marked for erasure in MS.

<sup>1</sup> leaf 146 a.He works  
his proof  
through,and brings  
out a result.

quych is 9. by þe secunde case þat þou hadest in addicion. þan cast  
1 to 9. & þat wol be 10. do away þe 9. & þat 1. And write þere a  
cifer. and write þe articulle þat is 1. betokenynge 10. vpon þe hede of  
þe next figure toward þe lyft side, þe quych <sup>1</sup>is 9, & so do forth tyl  
þou come to þe last 9. take þe figure of þat 1. þe quych þou schalt  
fynde ouer þe hed of 9. & sett it ouer þe next figures hede þat  
schal be 3. ¶ Also do away þe 9. & set þere a cifer, & þen cast  
þat 1 þat stondes vpon þe hede of 3 to þe same 3, & þat schalle make  
4, þen caste to þe ylike 4 the figure in þe neyþer rewe, þe quych is  
2, and þat schalle be 6. And þen schal þou haue an Ensampulle  
aʒeyn, loke & se, & but þou haue þis same þou hase myse-wroʒt.

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## Sequitur de duplacione

12

**S**i vis duplare numerum, sic incipe primo  
Scribe figurarum seriem quamcunque velis tu.

Four things  
must be  
known in  
Duplation.Here they  
are.<sup>3</sup> leaf 146 b.Mind where  
you begin.Remember  
your rules.

¶ This is the Chapture of duplacion, in þe quych craft þou most  
haue & know 4 thinges. ¶ þe first þat þou most know is what is 16  
duplacion. þe secunde is how many rewes of figures þou most  
haue to þis craft. ¶ þe thryde is how many cases may <sup>2</sup>happe in  
þis craft. ¶ þe fourte is what is þe profet of þe craft. ¶ As for þe  
first. duplacion is a doublynge of a nombre. ¶ As for þe secunde  
þou most <sup>3</sup>haue on nombre or on rewe of figures, the quych called  
numerus duplandus. As for þe thrid þou most know þat 3 diuerse  
cases may hap in þis craft. As for þe fourte. qwat is þe profet of  
þis craft, & þat is to know what a-risyʒt of a nombre I-doublyde.  
¶ fforþer-more, þou most know & take gode hede in quych side þou  
schalle be-gyn in þis craft, or ellis þou mayst spyl alle þi laber þere  
aboute. certeyn þou schalt begyn in the lyft side in þis Craft.  
thenke wel ouer þis verse. ¶ <sup>4</sup>A leua dupla, diuide, multiplica.  
The sentens of þes verses afore, as þou may see if þou take hede.  
As þe text of þis verse, þat is to say, ¶ Si vis duplare. þis is þe  
sentence. ¶ If þou wel double a nombre þus þou most be-gynn.  
Write a rewe of figures of what nombre þou welt. versus.

Postea procedas primam duplando figuram

Inde quod excrecit scribas vbi iusserit ordo

Iuxta precepta tibi que dantur in addicione.

How to work  
a sum.

¶ Here he telles how þou schalt worch in þis Craft. he says, 36  
fyrst, whan þou hast writen þe nombre þou schalt be-gyn at þe first

<sup>2</sup> 'moy' in MS.<sup>4</sup> Subtrahas aut addis a dextris vel mediabis' added on margin of MS.

figure in the lyft side, & doubulle þat figure, & þe nombre þat comes þere-of þou schalt write as þou diddyst in addicion), as ¶ I schal telle þe in þe case. versus.

4 ¶ **Nam si sit digitus in primo limite scribas.**

<sup>1</sup> leaf 147 a.

¶ Here is þe first case of þis craft, þe quych is þis. yf of duplication of a figure arise a digit. what schal þou do. þus þou schal do. do away þe figure þat was doublede, & sett þere þe diget þat comes of þe duplication), as þus. 23. double 2, & þat wel be 4. do away þe figure of 2 & sett þere a figure of 4, & so worch forth till þou come to þe ende. versus.

If the answer is a digit,

write it in the place of the top figure.

¶ **Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram,**

12 ¶ **Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris;**

¶ **Vel per se scribas, si nulla figura sequatur.**

¶ Here is þe secunde case, þe quych is þis yf þere come an articulle of þe duplication of a figure þou schalt do ryzt as þou diddyst in addicion), þat is to wete þat þou schalt do away þe figure þat is doublet & sett þere a cifer, & write þe articulle ouer þe next figuris hede, yf þere be any after-warde toward þe lyft side as þus. 25. begyn at the lyft side, and doubulle 2. þat wel be 4. do

If it is an article,

put a cipher in the place, and 'carry' the tens.

20 away þat 2 & sett þere 4. þan doubul 5. þat wel be 10. do away 5, & sett þere a 0, & sett 1 vpon þe next figuris hede þe quych is 4. & þen draw downe 1 to 4 & þat wol be 5, & þen do away þat 4 & þat 1, & sett þere 5. for þat 1 schal be rekened in þe drawynge to-

24 gedre for 1. wen <sup>2</sup>þou hast ydon þou schalt haue þis nombre 50. yf þere come no figure after þe figure þat is addit, of þe quych addicion) comes an articulle, þou schalt do away þe figure þat is doublet & sett þere a 0. & write þe articul next by in þe same

<sup>2</sup> leaf 147 b.

If there is no figure to 'carry' them to, write them down.

28 rewe toward þe lyft syde as þus, 523. double 5 þat woll be ten. do away þe figure 5 & set þere a cifer, & sett þe articul next after in þe same rewe toward þe lyft side, & þou schalt haue þis nombre 1023. þen go forth & double þe oþer numbers þe quych is lyzt y-  
32 nowzt to do. versus.

¶ **Compositus si sit, in limite scribe sequente**

**Articulum, primo digitum; quia sic iubet ordo:**

**Et sic de reliquis faciens, si sint tibi plures.**

36 ¶ Here he puttes þe Thryd case, þe quych is þis, yf of duplication of a figure come a Composit. þou schalt do away þe figure þat is doublet & set þere a digit of þe Composit, & sett þe articulle ouer þe next figures hede, & after draw hym downe with þe figure ouer whos hede he stondes, & make þere-of an nombre as þou hast done

If it is a Composite,

write down the digit, and 'carry' the tens.



<sup>1</sup> leaf 148 a.

Here is an example.

afore, & yf *pere* come no figure after þat digit þat þou hast y-write, þan set þe articulle next after hym in þe same rewe as þus, 67 : double 6 þat wel be 12, do away 6 & write *pere* þe digit <sup>1</sup> of 12, þe quych is 2, and set þe articulle next after toward þe lyft side in þe same rewe, for *pere* comes no figure after. þan dowble þat *oper* figure, þe quych is 7, þat wel be 14. the quych is a Composit. þen do away 7 þat þou doublet & sett þe þe diget of hym, the quych is 4, sett þe articulle ouer þe next figures hed, þe quych is 2, & þen draw to hym þat on, & make on nombre þe quych schalle be 3. And þen yf þou haue wel y-do þou schalle haue þis nombre of þe duplacion, 134. versus,

¶ *Si super extremam nota sit monadem dat eidem**Quod tibi contingat si primo dimidiabis.*

12

How to double the mark for one-half.

¶ Here he says, yf ouer þe fyrst figure in þe ryȝt side be such a merke as is here made, <sup>w</sup>, þou schalle fyrst doubulle þe figure, the quych stondes vnder þat merke, & þen þou schalt doubul þat merke þe quych stondes for haluendel on. for too haluedels makes on, & 16 so þat wol be on. cast þat on to þat duplacion of þe figure ouer whos hed stode þat merke, & write it in þe same place *pere* þat þe figure þe quych was doublet stode, as þus 23<sup>w</sup>. double 3, þat wol be 6 ; doubul þat halue on, & þat wol be on. cast on to 6, þat wel be 20 7. do away 6 & þat 1, & sett *pere* 7. þan hase þou do. as for þat figure, þan go <sup>2</sup> to þe *oper* figure & worch forth. & þou schall neuer haue such a merk but ouer þe hed of þe furst figure in þe ryȝt side. And ȝet it schal not happe but yf it were y-halued a-fore, þus 24 þou schalt vnderstonde þe verse. ¶ *Si super extremam &c. Et nota, talis figura <sup>w</sup> significans medietatem, unitatis veniat, i.e. contingat uel fiat super extremam, i.e. super primam figuram in extremo sic versus dextram ars dat : i.e. reddit monadem. i.e. vnitatem eidem. i.e. eidem note & declinat<sup>ur</sup> hec monos, dis, di, dem, &c. ¶ Quod ergo totum hoc dabis monadem note continget. i.e. eveniet tibi si dimidiasti, i.e. accipisti uel subtulisti medietatem alicuius unius, in cuius principio sint figura numerum denotans imparem primo i.e. principiis.*

<sup>2</sup> leaf 148 b.

This can only stand over the first figure.

¶ *Sequitur de mediacione.*

**I**ncipe sic, si vis aliquem numerum mediare :  
Scribe figurarum seriem solam, velut ante.

The four things to be known in mediation:

the first

¶ In þis Chapter is tȝt þe Craft of mediacion), in þe quych craft þou most know 4 thynges. ffurst what is mediacion). the secunde how mony rewes of figures þou most haue in þe wyrclynge of þis craft. þe thryde how mony diuerse cases may happ in þis craft.<sup>3</sup> ¶ As for þe furst, þou schalt vnderstonde þat mediacion) is a 40

<sup>3</sup> After 'craft' insert 'the .4. what is þe profet of þis craft.'

takyng out of halfe a nombre out of a holle nombre, <sup>1</sup>as yf pou <sup>1</sup> leaf 149 a.  
wolde take 3 out of 6. ¶ As for þe secunde, pou schalt know þat the second;  
pou most haue one rewe of figures, & no moo, as pou hayst in þe  
4 craft of duplacion. ¶ As for the thryd, pou most vnderstonde þat the third;  
5 cases may happe in þis craft. ¶ As for þe fourte, pou schalle the fourth.  
know þat the profet of þis craft is when pou hast take away þe  
haluendel of a nombre to telle qwat þere schalle leue. ¶ Incipe  
8 sic, &c. The sentence of þis verse is þis. yf pou wold medye, þat  
is to say, take halfe out of þe holle, or halfe out of halfe, pou most  
begynne þus. Write one rewe of figures of what nombre pou wolte, <sup>Begin thus.</sup>  
as pou dyddyst be-fore in þe Craft of duplacion). versus.

12 ¶ **Postea procedas medians, si prima figura  
Si par aut impar videas.**

¶ Here he says, when pou hast write a rewe of figures, pou  
schalt take hede wheþer þe first figure be euen or odde in nombre, <sup>See if the</sup>  
16 & vnderstonde þat he spekes of þe first figure in þe ryzt side. And <sup>number is</sup>  
in the ryght side pou schalle begynne in þis Craft. <sup>even or odd.</sup>

¶ **Quia si fuerit par,**

**Dimidiabis eam, scribens quicquid remanebit :**

20 ¶ Here is the first case of þis craft, þe quych is þis, yf þe first <sup>If it is even,</sup>  
figure be euen. pou schal take away fro þe figure euen halfe, & do <sup>halve it, and</sup>  
away þat figure and set þere þat leues ouer, as þus, 4. take <sup>write the</sup> <sup>answer in</sup> <sup>its place.</sup> <sup>2 leaf 149 b.</sup> <sup>2</sup>halfe  
out of 4, & þan þere leues 2. do away 4 & sett þere 2. þis is lyght  
24 y-now3t. versus.

¶ **Impar si fuerit vnum demas mediare**

**Quod non presumas, sed quod superest mediabis**

**Inde super tractum fac demptum quod notat vnum.**

28 Here is þe secunde case of þis craft, the quych is þis. yf þe <sup>If it is odd,</sup>  
first figure betokene a nombre þat is odde, the quych odde schal not <sup>halve the</sup>  
be mediete, þen pou schalt medye þat nombre þat leues, when the <sup>even number</sup>  
odde of þe same nombre is take away, & write þat þat leues as pou <sup>less than it.</sup>  
32 diddest in þe first case of þis craft. Whan pou hayst write þat. for  
þat þat leues, write such a merke as is here w vpon his hede, þe quych <sup>Then write</sup>  
merke schal betoken halfe of þe odde þat was take away. lo an <sup>the sign for</sup>  
Ensampull. 245. the first figure here is betokenynge odde nombre, <sup>one-half over</sup>  
36 þe quych is 5, for 5 is odde; þere-fore do away þat þat is odde, þe <sup>it.</sup>  
quych is 1. þen leues 4. þen medye 4 & þen leues 2. do away 4. <sup>Here is an</sup>  
sette þere 2, & make such a merke w vpon his hede, þat is to say <sup>example.</sup>  
ouer his hede of 2 as þus. 242. w And þen worch forth in þe oþer  
40 figures tyll pou come to þe ende. by þe furst case as pou schalt

<sup>1</sup> leaf 150 a. vnderstonde þat þou schalt <sup>1</sup> neuer make such a merk but ouer þe first figure hed in þe ryȝt side. Wheþer þe other figures þat comyn after hym be euen or odde. *versus.*

Put the mark only over the first figure.

¶ *Si monos, dele; sit tibi cifra post nota supra.*

4

If the first figure is one put a cipher.

¶ Here is þe thryde case, þe quych yf the first figure be a figure of 1. þou schalt do away þat 1 & set þere a cifer, & a merke ouer þe cifer as þus, 241. do away 1, & sett þere a cifer with a merke ouer his hede, & þen hast þou ydo for þat 0. as þus 0<sup>m</sup> þen worch forth 8 in þe oper figurys till þou come to þe ende. for it is lyght as dyche water. vnde *versus.*

¶ *Postea procedas hac condicione secunda:*

*Impar si fuerit hinc vnum deme priori,  
Inscribens quinque, nam denos significabit  
Monos predictam.*

12

What to do if any other figure is odd.

¶ Here he puttes þe fourte case, þe quych is þis. yf it happen the secunde figure betoken odde nombre, þou schal do away on of 16 þat odde nombre, þe quych is significatiue by þat figure 1. þe quych 1 schall be rekende for 10. Whan þou hast take away þat 1 out of þe nombre þat is signifiede by þat figure, þou schalt medie þat þat leues ouer, & do away þat figure þat is medied, & sette in his styde 20 halfe of þat nombre. ¶ Whan þou hase so done, þou schalt write 2 a figure of 5 ouer þe next figures hede by-fore toward þe ryȝt side, for þat 1, þe quych made odd nombre, schall stonde for ten, & 5 is halfe of 10; so þou most write 5 for his haluendelle. lo an En- 24 sampulle, 4678. begyn in þe ryȝt side as þou most nedes. medie 8. þen þou schalt leue 4. do away þat 8 & sette þere 4. þen out of 7. take away 1. þe quych makes odde, & sett 5. vpon þe next figures hede afore toward þe ryȝt side, þe quych is now 4. but afore it was 28 8. for þat 1 schal be rekenet for 10, of þe quych 10, 5 is halfe, as þou knowest wel. Whan þou hast þus ydo, medye þat þe quych leues after þe takyinge away of þat þat is odde, þe quych leuyng schalle be 3; do away 6 & sette þere 3, & þou schalt haue such a 32 nombre 4634. after go forth to þe next figure, & medy þat, & worch forth, for it is lyȝt ynowȝt to þe certayn.

<sup>2</sup> leaf 150 b. Write a figure of five over the next lower number's head.

Example.

¶ *Si vero secunda dat vnum.*

*Ille deleta, scribatur cifra; priori*

36

¶ *Tradendo quinque pro denario mediato;  
Nec cifra scribatur, nisi deinde figura sequatur:  
Postea procedas reliquas mediando figuras  
Vt supra docui, si sint tibi mille figure.*

40



¶ Here he puttes þe 5 case, þe quych is <sup>1</sup>þis: yf þe secunde figure be of 1, as þis is here 12, þou schalt do away þat 1 & sett þere a cifer. & sett 5 ouer þe next figure hede afore toward þe ryzt side, as þou diddest afore; & þat 5 schal be haldel of þat 1, þe quych 1 is rekent for 10. lo an Ensampulle, 214. medye 4. þat schalle be 2. do away 4 & sett þere 2. þen go forth to þe next figure. þe quych is bot 1. do away þat 1. & sett þere a cifer. & set 8 5 vpon þe figures hed afore, þe quych is now 2, & þen þou schalt haue þis nombre 202, þen worch forth to þe nex figure. And also it is no maystery yf þere come no figure after þat on is medyet, þou schalt write no 0. ne nowzt ellis, but set 5 ouer þe next figure afore 12 toward þe ryzt, as þus 14. medie 4 then leues 2, do away 4 & sett þere 2. þen medie 1. þe quich is rekende for ten, þe haluendel þere of wel be 5. sett þat 5 vpon þe hede of þat figure, þe quych is now 2, & do away þat 1, & þou schalt haue þis nombre yf þou 16 worch wel, 2. <sup>5</sup> vnde versus.

<sup>1</sup> leaf 151 a.  
If the second figure is one, put a cipher, and write five over the next figure.

How to halve fourteen.

¶ Si mediatio sit bene facta probare valebis

¶ Duplando numerum quem primo dimediasti

¶ Here he telles þe how þou schalt know wheþer þou hase wel 20 ydo or no. doubul <sup>2</sup>þe nombre þe quych þou hase mediet, and yf þou haue wel y-medyt after þe dupleacion, þou schalt haue þe same nombre þat þou haddyst in þe tabulle or þou began to medye, as þus. ¶ The furst ensampulle was þis. 4. þe quych I-mediet was 24 laft 2, þe whych 2 was write in þe place þat 4 was write afore. Now doubulle þat 2, & þou schal haue 4, as þou haddest afore. þe secunde Ensampulle was þis, 245. When þou haddyst mediet alle þis nombre, yf þou haue wel ydo þou schalt haue of þat mediacion) 28 þis nombre, 122<sup>w</sup>. Now doubulle þis nombre, & begyn in þe lyft side; doubulle 1, þat schal be 2. do away þat 1 & sett þere 2. þen doubulle þat oper 2 & sett þere 4, þen doubulle þat oper 2, & þat wel be 4. þen doubul þat merke þat stondes for halue on. & þat schalle 32 be 1. Cast þat on to 4, & it schalle be 5. do away þat 2 & þat merke, & sette þere 5, & þen þou schal haue þis nombre 245. & þis was þe same nombur þat þou haddyst or þou began to medye, as þou mayst se yf þou take hede. The nombre þe quych þou haddist 36 for an Ensampul in þe 3 case of mediacion) to be mediet was þis 241. whan þou haddist mediet alle þis nombur truly <sup>3</sup>by euery figure, þou schall haue be þat mediacion) þis nombur 120<sup>w</sup>. Now dowbul þis nombur, & begyn in þe lyft side, as I tolde þe in þe 40 Craft of dupleacion. þus doubulle þe figure of 1, þat wel be 2. do

How to prove your mediation.

<sup>2</sup> leaf 151 b.

Furst example.

The second.

The thrid example.

<sup>3</sup> leaf 152 a.

The fourth  
example.

1 leaf 152 b.

The fifth  
example.

leaf 153 a.

away þat 1 & sett þere 2, þen doubul þe next figure afore, the quych  
is 2, & þat wel be 4; do away 2 & set þere 4. þen doubul þe cifer,  
& þat wel be noȝt, for a 0 is noȝt. And twyes noȝt is but noȝt. 4  
þefore doubul the merke aboue þe cifers hede, þe quych be-  
tokenes þe haluendel of 1, & þat schal be 1. do away þe cifer &  
þe merke, & sett þere 1, & þen þou schalt haue þis nombur 241.  
And þis same nombur þou haddyst afore or þou began to medy, &  
yf þou take gode hede. ¶ The next ensampul þat had in þe 4 case 8  
of mediacion was þis 4678. Whan þou hast truly ymedit alle þis  
nombur fro þe begynnyng to þe endyng, þou schalt haue of þe  
mediacion þis nombur 2334. Now doubul this nombur & begyn  
in þe lyft side, & doubulle 2 þat schal be 4. do away 2 and sette þere 12  
4; þen doubule 3, þat wol be 6; do away 3 & sett þere 6, þen  
doubul þat oper 3, & þat wel be 6; do away 3 & set þere 16, þen  
doubul þe 4, þat welle be 8; þen doubul 5. þe quych stondes ouer  
þe hed of 4, & þat wol be 10; cast 10 to 8, & þat schal be 18; do 16  
away 4 & þat 5, & sett þere 8, & sett that 1, þe quych is an articul  
of þe Composit þe quych is 18, ouer þe next figures hed toward þe  
lyft side, þe quych is 6. drav þat 1 to 6, þe quych 1 in þe dravyng  
schal be rekente bot for 1, & þat 1 & þat 6 togedur wel be 7. do 20  
away þat 6 & þat 1. the quych stondes ouer his hede, & sett ther 7,  
& þen þou schalt haue þis nombur 4678. And þis same nombur  
þou hadyst or þou began to medye, as þou mayst see in þe secunde  
Ensampul þat þou had in þe 4 case of mediacion, þat was þis: when 24  
þou had mediet truly alle the nombur, a principio usque ad finem.  
þou schalt haue of þat mediacion þis nombur 102. Now doubul  
1. þat wel be 2. do away 1 & sett þere 2. þen doubul 0. þat will be  
noȝt. þefore take þe 5, þe quych stondes ouer þe next figures 28  
hed, & doubul it, & þat wol be 10. do away þe 0 þat stondes  
betwene þe two figuris, & sette þere in his stid 1, for þat 1 now  
schal stonde in þe secunde place, where he schal betoken 10; þen  
doubul 2, þat wol be 4. do away 2 & sett þere 4. & 2 þou schalt haue 32  
þus nombur 214. þis is þe same nombur þat þou hadyst or þou  
began to medye, as þou may see. And so do euer more, yf þou wil  
knowe wheþer þou hase wel ymedyt or no. ¶. doubulle þe numbur  
þat comes after þe mediacion, & þou schalt haue þe same nombur 36  
þat þou hadyst or þou began to medye, yf þou haue welle ydo. or  
els doute þe noȝt, but yf þou haue þe same, þou hase faylide in þi  
Craft.

**Sequitur de multiplicatione.**

**S**i tu per numerum numerum vis multiplicare  
Scribe duas quascunque velis series numerorum  
Ordo servetur vt vltima multiplicandi

4 Ponatur super anteriorem multiplicantis

A leua relique sint scripte multiplicantes.

- ¶ Here be-gynnes þe Chaptre of multiplicacion, in þe quych Four things to be known of Multiplication:  
þou most know 4 thynges. ¶ Ffirst, qwat is multiplicacion. The  
8 secunde, how many cases may hap in multiplicacion. The thryde,  
how many rewes of figures þere most be. ¶ The 4. what is þe  
profet of þis craft. ¶ As for þe first, þou schal vnderstonde þat the first:  
multiplicacion is a bryngynge to-geder of 2 thynges in on nombur,  
12 þe quych on nombur contynes so many tymes on, howe <sup>1</sup>many 1 leaf 153 b.  
tymes þere ben vnitees in þe nowmbre of þat 2, as twyes 4 is 8.  
now here ben þe 2 numbers, of þe quych too nowmbres on is  
betokened be an aduerbe, þe quych is þe worde twyes, & þis worde  
16 thryes, & þis worde foure sythes,<sup>2</sup> & so furth of such other lyke  
wordes. ¶ And tweyn nombres schal be tokenyde be a nowne, as  
þis worde foure showys þes tweyn nombres y-broth in-to on hole  
nombur, þat is 8, for twyes 4 is 8, as þou wost wel. ¶ And þes  
20 nombre 8 conteynes as oft tymes 4 as þere ben vnites in þat other  
nombre, þe quych is 2, for in 2 ben 2 vnites, & so oft tymes 4 ben  
in 8, as þou wottys wel. ¶ ffor þe secunde, þou most know þat þou the second:  
most haue too rewes of figures. ¶ As for þe thryde, þou most know the third:  
24 þat 8 maner of diuerse case may happe in þis craft. The profet of  
þis Craft is to telle when a nombre is multiplyed be a noþer, qwat the fourth.  
commys þere of. ¶ fforthermore, as to þe sentence of oure verse,  
yf þou wel multiply a nombur be a-noþer nombur, þou schalt write  
28 <sup>3</sup>a rewe of figures of what nomburs so euer þou welt, & þat schal be 1 leaf 154 a.  
called Numerus multiplicandus, Anglice, þe nombur the quych to The multipli-  
be multiplied. þen þou schalt write a-nother rewe of figures, by þe  
quych þou schalt multiplie the nombre þat is to be multiplied, of þe  
32 quych nombur þe furst figure schal be write vnder þe last figure of  
þe nombur, þe quych is to be multiplied. And so write forthe  
toward þe lyft side, as here you may se, 

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1234

 And þis one How to set down the sum.  
nombur schalle be called numerus multi-  
36 lice, þe nombur multipliynge, for he schalle multiply þe hyer noun-  
bur, as þus one tyme 6. And so forth, as I schal telle the afterwarde.  
And þou schal begyn in þe lyft side. ¶ ffor-þere-more þou schalt  
vndurstonde þat þere is two manurs of multiplicacion; one ys of Two sorts of Multiplication: mentally,  
40 þe wyrehyng of þe boke only in þe mynde of a mon. fyrst he

<sup>2</sup> After 'sythes' insert ' & þis wordes fyue sithe & sex sythes.'



and on paper. teches of þe fyrst maner of duplacion, þe quych is be wyrchyng  
of tabuls. Afterwarde he wol teche on þe secunde maner. vnde  
versus.

**In digitum cures digitum si ducere maior**

4

1 leaf 154 b.

**1 Per quantum distat a denis respice debes**

**¶ Namque suo decuplo totiens delere minorem**

**Sitque tibi numerus veniens exinde patebit.**

How to  
multiply two  
digits.

¶ Here he teches a rewle, how þou schalt fynde þe nounbre þat  
comes by þe multiplicacion of a digit be anoper. loke how many  
[vny]tes ben. bytwene þe more digit and 10. And reken ten for on  
vnite. And so oft do away þe lasse nounbre out of his owne  
decuple, þat is to say, fro þat nounbre þat is ten tymes so mych is 12  
þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicacion. As yf þou wol multiply  
2 be 4. loke how many vnitees ben by-twene þe quych is þe more  
nounbre, & be-twene ten. Certen þere wel be vj vnitees by-twene 4  
& ten. yf þou reken þere with þe ten þe vnite, as þou may se. so 16  
many tymes take 2. out of his decuple, þe quych is 20. for 20 is þe  
decuple of 2, 10 is þe decuple of 1, 30 is þe decuple of 3, 40 is þe  
decuple of 4, And þe oper digetes til þou come to ten; & whan þou

Subtract the  
greater from  
ten;

take the less  
so many  
times from  
ten times  
itself.

Example.

2 leaf 155 a.

Better use  
this table,  
though.

hast y-take so many tymes 2 out of twenty, þe quych is sex tymes, 20  
þou schal leue 8 as þou wost wel, for 6 times 2 is twelue. take  
[1]2 out of twenty, & þere schal leue 8. bot yf bothe þe digettes  
2, þen y-lyech mych as here. 222 or too tymes twenty, þen it is no  
fors quych of hem tweyn þou take out of here decuple. als mony 24  
tymes as þat is fro 10. but neuer-þe-lesse, yf þou haue hast to  
worch, þou schalt haue here a tabul of figures, where-by þou schalt  
se a-nonny ryght what is þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicacion  
of 2 digittes. þus þou schalt worch in þis figure.

28

1									
2		4							
3		6		9					
4		8		12		16			
5		10		15		20		25	
6		12		18		24		30	
7		14		21		28		35	
8		16		24		32		40	
9		18		27		36		45	
1		2		3		4		5	
6		7		8		9			

How to use it. yf þe figure, þe quych schalle be multiplied, be euene as mych as þe 29  
diget be, þe quych þat oper figure schal be multiplied, as two tymes  
twayn, or thre tymes 3. or sych other. loke qwere þat figure sittes in

þe lyft side of þe triangle, & loke qwere þe diget sittes in þe neþer most rewe of þe triangle. & go fro hym vpwarde in þe same rewe, be quych rewe gose vpwarde til þou come agaynes þe oþer digette þat sittes in þe lyft side of þe triangle. And þat nounbre, þe quych þou fyn<sup>1</sup>des þere is þe nounbre þat comes of the multiplicacion of þe 2 digittes, as yf þou wold wete qwat is 2 tymes 2. loke quere sittes 2 in þe lyft side in þe first rewe, he sittes next 1 in þe lyft side al on hye, as þou may se; þe[n] loke qwere sittes 2 in þe lowyst rewe of þe triangle, & go fro hym vpwarde in þe same rewe tyll þou come a-zenenes 2 in þe hyer place, & þer þou schalt fynd ywrite 4, & þat is þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicacion of two tymes 2 tweyn is 4, as þow wotest welle. yf þe diget. the quych is multiplied, be more þan þe oþer, þou schalt loke qwere þe more diget sittes in þe lowest rewe of þe triangle, & go vpwarde in þe same rewe tyl<sup>2</sup> þou come a-nendes þe lasse diget in the lyft side. And þere þou schalt fynde þe nombre þat comes of þe multiplicacion; but þou schalt vnderstonde þat þis rewle, þe quych is in þis verse. ¶ In digitum cures, &c., noþer þis triangle schalle not serue, bot to fynde þe nounbres þat comes of the multiplicacion þat comes of 2 articuls or composites, þe nedes no craft but yf þou wolt multiply in þi mynde. And þere-to þou schalt haue a craft afterwarde, for þou schall wyrch with digettes in þe tables, as þou schalt know afterwarde. versus.

The way to use the Multiplication table.

<sup>1</sup> leaf 155 b.

<sup>3</sup> leaf 156 a.

¶ *Postea procedas postremam multiplicando*  
*[Recte multiplicans per cunctas inferiores]*  
*Condicionem tamen tali quod multiplicantes*  
*Scribas in capite quicquid processerit inde*  
*Sed postquam fuit hec multiplicata figure*  
*Anteriores tibi sere multiplicantis*  
*Et sic multiplica velut isti multiplicasti*  
*Qui sequitur numerum scriptum quiscunque figuris.*

¶ Here he teches how þou schalt wyrch in þis craft. þou schalt multiplye þe last figure of þe nombre, and quen þou hast so ydo þou schalt draw alle þe figures of þe neþer nounbre more taward þe ryzt side, so qwen þou hast multiplied þe last figure of þe heyer nounbre by alle þe neþer figures. And sette þe nounbir þat comes þer-of ouer þe last figure of þe neþer nounbre, & þen þou schalt sette al þe oþer figures of þe neþer nounbre more nere to þe ryzt side. ¶ And whan þou hast multiplied þat figure þat schal be multiplied þe next after

How to multiply one number by another.

Multiply the 'last' figure of the higher by the 'first' of the lower number.

<sup>2</sup> 't'l' marked for erasure before 'tyl' in MS.

hym by al þe neþer figures. And worch as þou dyddyst afore til  
<sup>1</sup> þou come to þe ende. And þou schalt vnderstonde þat euery  
 figure of þe hier nounbre schal be multiplied be alle þe figures of the  
 neþer nounbre, yf þe hier nounbre be any figure þen one. lo an  
 Ensampul here folowyng. 

2465
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 þou schalt begyne to multiplie  
 in þe lyft side. Multiply 2 be 2, and twyes 2 is 4. set 4  
 ouer þe hed of þat 2, þen multiplie þe same hier 2 by 3 of þe nether  
 nounbre, as thryes 2 þat schal be 6. set 6 ouer þe hed of 3, þan  
 multiplie þe same hier 2 by þat 2 þe quych stondes vnder hym, þat  
 wol be 4; do away þe hier 2 & sette þere 4. ¶ Now þou most  
 antery þe nether nounbre, þat is to say, þou most sett þe neþer  
 nounbre more towarde þe ryzt side, as þus. Take þe neþer 2 toward  
 þe ryzt side, & sette it euem vnder þe 4 of þe hyer nounbre, &  
 antery alle þe figures þat comes after þat 2, as þus; sette 2 vnder þe  
 4. þen sett þe figure of 3 þere þat þe figure of 2 stode, þe quych  
 is now vndur þat 4 in þe hier nounbre; þen sett þe oper figure of 2,  
 þe quych is þe last figure toward þe lyft side of þe neþer number þere  
 þe figure of 3 stode. þen þou schalt haue such a nombre 

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 ¶ Now multiply 4, þe quych comes next after 6, by þe last  
 2 of þe neþer nounbur toward þe lyft side. as 2 tymes 4, þat wel be  
 8. sette þat 8 ouer þe figure the quych stondes ouer þe hede of þat  
 2, þe quych is þe last figure of þe neþer nounbre; þan multiplie þat  
 same 4 by 3, þat comes in þe neþer rewe, þat wol be 12. sette þe  
 digit of þe composyt ouer þe figure þe quych stondes ouer þe hed of  
 þat 3, & sette þe articule of þis composyt ouer al þe figures þat  
 stondes ouer þe neþer 2 hede. þen multiplie þe same 4 by þe 2 in  
 þe ryzt side in þe neþer nounbur, þat wol be 8. do away 4. & sette  
 þere 8. Euer more qwen þou multiplies þe hier figure by þat figure  
 þe quych stondes vnder hym, þou schalt do away þat hier figure, &  
 sett þer þat nounbre þe quych comes of multiplicacion of ylke  
 digittes. Whan þou hast done as I haue byde þe, þou schalt haue  
 suych an order of figure as is here, 

$\frac{1}{2}$
$\frac{8}{2}$
4648[65]
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. þen take and antery  
 þi neþer figures. And sett þe fyrst figure of þe neþer  
 figures vndre þe figure of 6. ¶ And draw al þe  
 oper figures of þe same rewe to hym-warde, as þou diddyst afore.  
 þen multiplie 6 be 2, & sett þat þe quych comes ouer þere-of  
 ouer al þe oper figures hedes þat stondes ouer þat 2. þen multi-  
 ply 6 be 3, & sett alle þat comes þere-of vpon alle þe figures  
 hedes þat standes ouer þat 3; þan multiplie 6 be 2, þe quych

<sup>3</sup> Here 'of þe same rew' is marked for erasure in MS.



stondes vnder þat 6, þen do away 6 & write þere þe digitt of  
þe composit þat schal come þereof, & sette þe articull ouer alle  
þe figures þat stondes ouer þe hede of þat 3 as here, þen  
4 antery þi figures as þou diddist afore, and multipli 5  
be 2, þat wol be 10; sett þe 0 ouer all þe figures þat  
stonden ouer þat 2, & sett þat 1. ouer the next figures  
hedes, alle on hye towarde þe lyft side. þen multiplie 5 be 3. þat  
8 wol be 15, write 5 ouer þe figures hedes þat stonden ouer þat 3, &  
sett þat 1 ouer þe next figures hedes toward þe lyft side. þen  
multiplie 5 be 2, þat wol be 10. do away þat 5 & sett þere a 0,  
& sett þat 1 ouer þe figures hedes þat stonden ouer 3. And þen  
12 þou schalt haue such a nounbre as here stondes aftur. <sup>1</sup>

11
121
828
464825
232

Antery the  
figures again,  
and multiply  
by five:

¶ Now draw alle þese figures downe togeder as þus, 6.8.1.  
& 1 draw to-gedur; þat wolle be 16, do away alle þese  
figures saue 6. lat hym stonde, for þow þou take hym  
16 away þou most write þer þe same azene. þerefore late  
hym stonde, & sett 1 ouer þe figure hede of 4 toward þe lyft side; þen  
draw on to 4, þat wolle be 5. do away þat 4 & þat 1, & sette  
þere 5. þen draw 4221 & 1 togedur, þat wol be 10. do away alle  
20 þat, & write þere þat 4 & þat 0, & sett þat 1 ouer þe next figures  
hede toward þe lyft side, þe quych is 6. þen draw þat 6 & þat 1  
togedur, & þat wolle be 7; do away 6 & sett þere 7, þen draw 8810  
& 1, & þat wel be 18; do away alle þe figures þat stondes ouer þe  
24 hede of þat 8, & lette 8 stonde stil, & write þat 1 ouer þe next  
figuris hede, þe quych is a 0. þen do away þat 0, & sett þere 1, þe  
quych stondes ouer þe 0. hede. þen draw 2, 5, & 1 togedur, þat  
wolle be 8. þen do away alle þat, & write þere 8. ¶ And þen þou  
28 schalt haue þis nounbre, 571880.

11
1101
1215
82820
4648
232

<sup>1</sup> leaf 158 a.

Then add all  
the figures  
above the  
line:

and you will  
have the  
answer.

<sup>2</sup> leaf 158 b.

<sup>2</sup>¶ *Sed cum multiplicabis, primo sic est operandum,*

*Si dabit articulum tibi multiplicacio solum;*

*Proposita cifra summam transferre memento.*

¶ Here he puttes þe fyrst case of þis craft, þe quych is þis: What to do  
yf þere come an articulle of þe multiplicacion ysette before the  
articulle in þe lyft side as þus 

51
23

 multiplie 5 by 2, þat wol be  
10; sette ouer þe hede of þat 2 a 0, & sett þat on, þat is þe  
36 articul, in þe lyft side, þat is next hym, þen þou schalt haue  
þis nounbre 

1051
23

. ¶ And þen worch forth as þou diddist afore.  
And þou 

23
----

 schalt vnderstonde þat þou schalt write no 0.  
but whan þat place where þou schal write þat 0 has no figure afore  
40 hym noþer after. versus.

What to do  
if the first  
multiplica-  
tion results  
in an article.

¶ *Si autem digitus excreuerit articulusque.*

*Articulus<sup>1</sup> supraposito digito salit ultra.*

What to do  
if the result  
is a composite  
number.

¶ Here is þe secunde case, þe quych is þis: yf hit happe þat þere come a composyt, þou schalt write þe digitte ouer þe hede of þe neþer figure by þe quych þou multiplieth þe hier figure; and sett þe articulle next hym toward þe lyft side, as þou diddest afore, as þus

<sup>2</sup> leaf 159 a.

83  
83

Multiply 8 by 8, þat wol be 64. Write þe 4 ouer 8, þat is to say, ouer þe hede of þe neþer 8; & set 6, þe quych <sup>2</sup> is an articul, next after. And þen þou schalt haue such a nounbre as is here, 6483<sup>3</sup>, And þen worch forth.

83

¶ *Si digitus tamen ponas ipsum super ipsam.*

12

What if it  
be a digit.

¶ Here is þe thryde case, þe quych is þis: yf hit happe þat of þi multiplicacioun come a digit, þou schalt write þe digit ouer þe hede of þe neþer figure, by the quych þou multiplieth þe hier figure, for þis nedes no Ensampul.

16

¶ *Subdita multiplica non hanc que [incidit] illi*

*Delet eam penitus scribens quod prouenit inde.*

The fourth  
case of the  
craft.

¶ Here is þe 4 case, þe quych is: yf hit be happe þat þe neþer figure schal multiplie þat figure, þe quych stondes ouer þat figures hede, þou schal do away þe hier figure & sett þere þat þat comys of þat multiplicacion. As yf þere come of þat multiplicacion an articuls þou schalt write þere þe hier figure stode a 0. ¶ And write þe articuls in þe lyft side, yf þat hit be a digit write þere a digit. yf þat hit be a composyt, write þe digit of þe composyt. And þe articul in þe lyft side. al þis is lyzt y-nowzt, þere-fore þer nedes no Ensampul.

¶ *Sed si multiplicat aliam ponas super ipsam*

28

*Adiunges numerum quem prebet ductus earum.*

<sup>4</sup> leaf 159 b.

The fifth case  
of the craft.

¶ Here is þe 5 case, þe quych is þis: yf <sup>4</sup> þe neþer figure schul multiplie þe hier, and þat hier figure is not recte ouer his hede. And þat neþer figure hase oþer figures, or on figure ouer his hede by multiplicacion, þat hase be afore, þou schalt write þat nounbre, þe quych comes of þat, ouer alle þe ylke figures hedes, as þus here:

236  
234

Multiply 2 by 2, þat wol be 4; set 4 ouer þe hede of þat 2. þen<sup>5</sup> multiplies þe hier 2 by þe neþer 3, þat wol be 6. set ouer his hede 6, multiplie þe hier 2 by þe neþer 4, þat wol be 8. do away þe hier 2, þe quych stondes ouer þe hede of þe figure of 4,

<sup>1</sup> 'sed' deleted in MS.

<sup>2</sup> 6883 in MS.

<sup>5</sup> 'þen' overwritten on 'þat' marked for erasure.

and set þere 8. And þou schalt haue þis nounbre here 46836. And antery þi figures, þat is to say, set þi neþer 4 vnder þe 234 hier 3, and set þi 2 other figures nere hym, so þat þe neþer 2 stonde vndur 4 þe hier 6, þe quych 6 stondes in þe lyft side. And þat 3 þat stondes vndur 8, as þus aftur 3e may se, 46836 Now worch forthemore, And multiplie þat hier 3 by 2, 234 þat wol be 6, set þat 6 þe quych stondes ouer þe hede of þat 2, And þen worch as I tæzt þe 8 afore.

<sup>1</sup>¶ *Si supraposita cifra debet multiplicare*

<sup>1</sup> leaf 160 a.

*Prorsus eam deles & ibi scribi cifra debet.*

¶ Here is þe 6 case, þe quych is þis: yf hit happe þat þe figure 12 by þe quych þou schal multiplie þe hier figure, þe quych stondes ryght ouer hym by a 0, þou schalt do away þat figure, þe quych ouer þat cifre hede. ¶ And write þere þat nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicacion as þus, 23. do away 2 and sett þere a 0. vnde 16 versus.

The sixth case of the craft.

¶ *Si cifra multiplicat aliam positam super ipsam*

*Sitque locus supra vacuus super hanc cifram fiet.*

¶ Here is þe 7- case, þe quych is þis: yf a 0 schal multiply a 20 figure, þe quych stondes not recte ouer hym, And ouer þat 0 stonde no thyng, þou schalt write ouer þat 0 anoper 0 as þus: 24 multiplie 2 be a 0, it wol be nothyng. write þere a 0 ouer þe 03 hede of þe neþer 0, And þen worch forth til þou come to þe ende.

The seventh case of the craft.

24 ¶ *Si supra<sup>2</sup> fuerit cifra semper est pretereunda.*

¶ Here is þe 8 case, þe quych is þis: yf þere be a 0 or mony cifers in þe hier rewe, þou schalt not multiplie hem, bot let hem stonde. And antery þe figures beneþe to þe next figure sygnificatyf

The eighth case of the craft.

28 as þus: 00032. Ouer-lepe alle pese cifers & sett þat <sup>3</sup>neþer 2 þat stondes 22 toward þe ryght side, and sett hym vndur þe 3, and sett þe oper nether 2 nere hym, so þat he stonde vndur þe thrydde 0, þe quych stondes next 3. And þan worch. vnde versus.

<sup>3</sup> leaf 160 b.

32 ¶ *Si dubites, an sit bene multiplicacio facta,*

*Diuide totalem numerum per multiplicantem.*

¶ Here he teches how þou schalt know wheþer þou hase wel I- do or no. And he says þat þou schalt deuide alle þe nounbre þat 36 comes of þe multiplicacion by þe neþer figures. And þen þou schalt haue þe same nounbur þat þou hadyst in þe begynnyng. but zet þou hast not þe craft of dyuision, but þou schalt haue hit afterwarde.

How to prove the multiplication.

<sup>2</sup> 'Supra' inserted in MS. in place of 'cifra' marked for erasure.



¶ *Per numerum si vis numerum quoque multiplicare*¶ *Tantum per normas subtiles absque figuris**Has normas poteris per versus scire sequentes.*Mental multi-  
plication.

¶ Here he teches þe to multiplie be þowȝt figures in þi mynde. 4  
And þe sentence of þis verse is þis : yf þou wel multiplie on nounbre  
by anoþer in þi mynde, þou schal haue þereto rewles in þe verses  
þat schal come after.

¶ *Si tu per digitum digitum vis multiplicare*

8

*Regula precedens dat qualiter est operandum.*Digit by digit  
is easy.

1 leaf 161 a.

¶ Here he teches a rewle as þou hast afore to multiplie a digit  
be anoþer, as yf þou wolde wete qwat is sex tymes 6. þou <sup>1</sup>schalt  
wete by þe rewle þat I tȝt þe before, yf þou haue mynde þerof. 12

¶ *Articulum si per reliquum reliquum vis multiplicare**In proprium digitum debet vterque resolui.*¶ *Articulus digitos post se multiplicantes**Ex digitis quociens retenerit multiplicari*

16

*Articuli faciunt tot centum multiplicati.*The first case  
of the craft.

¶ Here he teches þe furst rewle, þe quych is þis : yf þou wel  
multiplie an articul be anoþer, so þat both þe articuls bene with-  
Inne an hundreth, þus þou schalt do. take þe digit of bothe the 20  
articuls, for euery articul hase a digit, þen multiplie þat on digit by  
þat oþer, and loke how mony vnytes ben in þe nounbre þat comes  
of þe multiplicacion of þe 2 digittes, & so mony hundrythes ben in  
þe nounbre þat schal come of þe multiplicacion of þe ylke 2 articuls 24  
as þus. yf þou wold wete qwat is ten tymes ten. take þe digit of  
ten, þe quych is 1 ; take þe digit of þat oþer ten, þe quych is on.

Article by  
article;

an example :

¶ Also multiplie 1 be 1, as on tyme on þat is but 1. In on is but  
on vnite as þou wost welle, þefore ten tymes ten is but a hun- 28  
dryth.

another ex-  
ample :

¶ Also yf þou wold wete what is twenty tymes 30. take þe  
digit of twenty, þat is 2 ; & take þe digitt of thrytty, þat is 3.  
multiplie 3 be 2, þat is 6. Now in 6 ben 6 vnites, ¶ And so mony  
hundrythes ben in 20 tymes 30<sup>2</sup>, þefore 20 tymes 30 is 6 hun- 32  
dryth euen. loke & se. ¶ But yf it be so þat one articul be with-  
Inne an hundryth, or by-twene an hundryth and a thowsande, so  
þat it be not a þowsande fully. þen loke how mony vnytes ben in  
þe nounbur þat comys of þe multiplicacion <sup>3</sup>And so mony tymes<sup>3</sup> 36  
of 2 digittes of ylke articuls, so mony thowsant ben in þe nounbre,  
the quych comes of þe multiplicacion. And so mony tymes ten  
thowsand schal be in þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicacion of

2 leaf 161 b.

- 2 articuls, as yf þou wold wete qwat is 4 hundryth tymes [two hundryth]. Multiply 4 be 2,<sup>1</sup> þat wol be 8. in 8 ben 8 vnites.
- ¶ And so many tymes ten thousand be in 4 hundryth tymes Mental multiplication.
- 4 [2]<sup>1</sup> hundryth, þat is 80 thousand. Take hede, I schall telle þe a generalle rewle whan þou hast 2 articuls, And þou wold wete qwat comes of þe multiplicacion of hem 2. multiplie þe digit of þat on articuls, and kepe þat nounbre, þen loke how many cifers schuld go
- 8 before þat on articuls, and he were write. Als many cifers schuld go before þat other, & he were write of cifers. And haue alle þe ylke cifers togedur in þi mynde, <sup>2</sup>a-rowe ychon aftur other, and 2 leaf 162 a.
- in þe last plase set þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicacion of þe
- 12 2 digittes. And loke in þi mynde in what place he stondes, where in þe secunde, or in þe thryd, or in þe 4, or where ellis, and loke qwat þe figures by-token in þat place; & so mych is þe nounbre þat comes of þe 2 articuls y-multiplied to-gedur as þus: yf þou wold
- 16 wete what is 20 thousand tymes 3 þowsande. multiply þe digit of þat articulle þe quych is 2 by þe digitte of þat oper articul þe quych is 3, þat wol be 6. þen loke how many cifers schal go to 20 thousand as hit schuld be write in a tabul. certainly 4 cifers schuld go to
- 20 20 þowsant. ffor þis figure 2 in þe fyrst place betokenes twene.
- ¶ In þe secunde place hit betokenes twenty. ¶ In þe 3. place hit Notation.
- betokenes 2 hundryth. ¶ In þe 4 place 2 thousand. ¶ In þe 5 place hit betokenes twenty þowsant. þefore he most haue 4 cifers
- 24 a-fore hym þat he may stonde in þe 5 place. kepe þese 4 cifers in thy mynde, þen loke how many cifers gon to 3 thousand. Certayn to 3 thousante <sup>3</sup>gon 3 cifers afore. Now cast ylke 4 cifers þat 3 leaf 162 b.
- schuld go to twenty thousand, And thes 3 cifers þat schuld go
- 28 afore 3 thousand, & sette hem in rewe ychon after oper in þi mynde, as þai schuld stonde in a tabulle. And þen schal þou haue 7 cifers; þen sett þat 6 þe quych comes of þe multiplicacion of þe 2 digittes aftur þe ylke cifers in þe 8 place as yf þat hit stode in a
- 32 tabul. And loke qwat a figure of 6 schuld betoken in þe 8 place. yf hit were in a tabul & so mych it is. & yf þat figure of 6 stonde in þe fyrst place he schuld betoken but 6. ¶ In þe 2 place he schuld betoken sixty. ¶ In the 3 place he schuld betoken sex hundryth.
- 36 ¶ In þe 4 place sex thousand. ¶ In þe 5 place sixty þowsant. Notation again.
- ¶ In þe sext place sex hundryth þowsant. ¶ In þe 7 place sex þowsant thousandes. ¶ In þe 8 place sixty þowsant thousandes. þefore sett 6 in octauo loco, And he schal betoken sixty þowsant

<sup>1</sup> 4 in MS.

Mental multiplication.

thousantes. And so mych is twenty þowsant tymes 3 thousand,  
¶ And þis rewle is generalle for alle maner of articuls, Whethir  
þai be hundryth or þowsant; but þou most know well þe craft of þe  
1 leaf 163 a. wryrchynge in þe tabulle <sup>1</sup>or þou know to do þus in þi mynde. 4  
aftur þis rewle. Thou most þat þis rewle holdyþe note but where  
þere ben 2 articuls and no mo of þe quych ayther of hem hase but  
on figure significatyf. As twenty tymes 3 thousand or 3 hundryth,  
and such opur. 8

¶ *Articulum digito si multiplicare oportet*

*Articuli digit[i] sumi quo multiplicat[e]*

*Debemus reliquum quod multiplicatur ab illis*

*Per reliquo decuplum sic summam latere nequibit.* 12

The third case of the craft;

¶ Here he puttes þe thryde rewle, þe quych is þis. yf þou wel  
multiply in þi mynde, And þe Articul be a digitte, þou schalt loke  
þat þe digitt be with-Inne an hundryth, þen þou schalt multiply the  
digitt of þe Articulle by þe oper digitte. And euery vnite in þe 16  
nounbre þat schalle come þere-of schal betoken ten. As þus: yf  
an example. þat þou wold wete qwat is twyes 40. multiplie þe digitte of 40, þe  
quych is 4, by þe oper diget, þe quych is 2. And þat wolle be 8.  
And in þe nombre of 8 ben 8 vnites, & euery of þe ylke vnites 20  
schuld stonde for 10. þere-fore þere schal be 8 tymes 10, þat wol  
be 4 score. And so mony is twyes 40. ¶ If þe articul be a hun-  
dryth or be 2 hundryth And a þowsant, so þat hit be notte a  
2 leaf 163 b. thousant, <sup>2</sup>worch as þou dyddyst afore, saue þou schalt rekene euery 24  
vnite for a hundryth.

¶ *In numerum mixtum digitum si ducere cures*

*Articulus mixti sumatur deinde resoluas*

*In digitum post fac respectu de digitis* 28

*Articulusque docet excresecens in diriundo*

*In digitum mixti post ducas multiplicantem*

¶ *De digitis vt norma* <sup>3</sup>[docet] de [hunc]

*Multiplica simul et sic postea summa patebit.* 32

The fourth case of the craft:

Here he puttes þe 4 rewle, þe quych is þis: yf þou multipli  
on composit be a digit as 6 tymes 24, <sup>4</sup>þen take þe diget of þat com-  
posit, & multiply þat digitt by þat oper diget, and kepe þe nombur  
þat comes þere-of. þen take þe digit of þat composit, & multiply þat 36  
digit by anoper diget, by þe quych þou hast multiplyed þe diget of  
þe articul, and loke qwat comes þere-of. þen take þou þat nounbur,  
& cast hit to þat other nounbur þat þou secheste as þus yf þou wel

Composite by digit.

<sup>3</sup> docet. decet MS.

<sup>4</sup> '4 times 4' in MS.



wete qwat comes of 6 tymes 4 & twenty. multiply þat articulle of  
 þe composit by þe digit, þe quych is 6, as yn þe thryd rewle þou  
 was tauzt, And þat schal be 6 score. þen multiply þe diget of þe  
 4 composit, <sup>1</sup>þe quych is 4, and multiply þat by þat other diget, þe <sup>1</sup> leaf 164 a.  
 quych is 6, as þou wast tauzt in þe first rewle, yf þou haue mynde  
 þerof, & þat wol be 4 & twenty. cast all ylke nounburs to-gedir,  
 & hit schal be 144. And so mych is 6 tymes 4 & twenty.

8 ¶ *Ductus in articulum numerus si compositus sit*  
*Articulum purum comites articulum quoque*  
*Mixti pro digitis post fiat [et articulus vt]*  
*Norma iubet [retinendo quod extra dicta ab illis]*  
 12 *Articuli digitum post tu mixtum digitum duc*  
*Regula de digitis nec precipit articulusque*  
*Ex quibus excrecens summe tu iunge priori*  
*Sic manifesta cito fiet tibi summa petita.*

16 ¶ Here he puttes þe 5 rewle, þe quych is þis: yf þou wel  
 multiply an Articul be a composit, multiplie þat Articul by þe  
 articul of þe composit, and worch as þou was tauzt in þe secunde  
 rewle, of þe quych rewle þe verse begynnes þus. ¶ *Articulum si*  
 20 *per Relicum vis multiplicare.* þen multiply þe diget of þe composit  
 by þat *oper* articul aftir þe doctrine of þe 3 rewle. take þerof gode  
 hede, I pray þe as þus. Yf þou wel wete what is 24 tymes ten.  
 Multiplie ten by 20, þat wel be 2 hundryth. þen multiply þe diget  
 24 of þe 10, þe quych is 1, by þe diget of þe composit, þe quych is 4,  
 & þat <sup>2</sup>wol be 4. þen reken euery vnite þat is in 4 for 10, & þat <sup>2</sup> leaf 164 b.  
 schal be 40. Cast 40 to 2 hundryth, & þat wol be 2 hundryth & 40.  
 And so mych is 24 tymes ten.

28 ¶ *Compositum numerum mixto si[c] multiplicabis*  
*Vndecies tredecim sic est ex hiis operandum*  
*In reliquum primum demum duc post in eundem*  
 32 *Vnum post denum duc in tria deinde per vnum*  
*Multiplicesque demum intra omnia multiplicata*  
*In summa decies quam si fuerit tibi doces*  
*Multiplicandorum de normis sufficiunt hec.*

¶ Here he puttes þe 6 rewle, & þe last of alle multiplicacion),  
 36 þe quych is þis: yf þou wel multiplie a composit by a-noþer com-  
 posit, þou schalt do þus. multiplie þat on composit, qwych þou welt  
 of the twene, by þe articul of þe toþer composit, as þou were tauzt in  
 þe 5 rewle, þen multiplie þat same composit, þe quych þou hast  
 40 multiplied by þe *oper* articul, by þe digit of þe *oper* composit, as

Mental mul-  
tiplication.The fifth case  
of the craft:Article by  
Composite.

An example.

The sixth case  
of the craft:Composite by  
Composite.

Mental mul-  
tiplication.  
An example

<sup>1</sup> leaf 165 a.

of the sixth  
case of the  
craft.

pou was tauzt in þe 4 rewle. As þus, yf pou wold wete what is 11  
tymes 13, as pou was tauzt in þe 5 rewle, & þat schal be an hun-  
dryth & ten, afterwarde multiply þat same composit þat pou hast  
multiplied, þe quych is a .11. And multiplie hit be þe digit of þe 4  
oper composit, þe quych is 3, for 3 is þe digit of 13, And þat wel  
be 30. þen take þe digit of þat composit, þe quych composit pou  
multiplied by þe digit of þat oper composit, <sup>1</sup>þe quych is a 11.  
¶ Also of þe quych 11 on is þe digit. multiplie þat digitt by þe 8  
digett of þat other composit, þe quych digett is 3, as pou was tauzt in  
þe first rewle in þe begynnyng of þis craft. þe quych rewle begynnes  
“In digitum cures.” And of alle þe multiplicacion of þe 2 digitt  
comys thre, for onys 3 is but 3. Now cast alle þese nounbers 12  
togedur, the quych is þis, a hundryth & ten & 30 & 3. And al þat  
wel be 143. Write 3 first in þe ryght side. And cast 10 to 30, þat  
wol be 40. set 40 next aftur towarde þe lyft side, And set aftur a  
hundryth as here an Ensampulle, 143. 16

(Cetera desunt.)

# The Art of Nombryng.

A TRANSLATION OF

John of Holpwood's *De Arte Numerandi*.

[*Ashmole MS.* 396, fol. 48.]

**B**oys seying in the begynnyng of his Arsemetrike :—Alle  
 thynges that bene fro the first begynnyng of thynges  
 have procedede, and come forthe, And by resoun of  
 nombre ben formede; And in wise as they bene, So owethe  
 they to be knowene; wherfor in vniuersalle knowlechyng  
 of thynges the Art of nombryng is best, and most  
 operatyfe.

Fol. 48.

**T**herfore sithen the science of the whiche at this tyme we  
 intendene to write of standithe alle and about nombre :  
 first we most se, what is the propre name therofe, and fro  
 whens the name come : Afterwarde what is nombre, And how  
 manye spices of nombre ther ben. The name is clepede Algorisme,  
 hade out of Algore, other of Algos, in grewe, That is clepide in  
 englishe art other craft, And of Rithmus that is callede nombre.  
 So algorisme is clepede the art of nombryng, other it is had ofe en  
 or in, and gogos that is introduccioun, and Rithmus nombre, that is  
 to say Interduccioun of nombre. And thirdly it is hade of the  
 name of a kyng that is clepede Algo and Rythmus; So callede  
 Algorismus. Sothely .2. manere of nombres ben notified;   
 Formalle,<sup>1</sup> as nombre is vnitees gadrede to-gedres; Materialle,<sup>2</sup> as  
 nombre is a colleccioun of vnitees. Other nombre is a multitude  
 hade out of vnitees, vnitee is that thyng wher-by every thyng is  
 callede oone, other o thyng. Of nombres, that one is clepede  
 digitalle, that othere Article, Another a nombre componede oper  
 myxt. Another digitalle is a nombre with-in .10.; Article is pat  
 nombre that may be dyvydede in .10. parties egally, And that there

The name of the art.

Derivation of Algorism.

Another.

Another.

Kinds of numbers.

<sup>1</sup> MS. Materialle.

<sup>2</sup> MS. Formalle.



leve no residue; Componede or medlede is that nombre that is come of a digite and of an article. And vndrestande wele that alle nombres betwix .2. articles next is a nombre componede. Of this art bene .9. spices, that is forto sey, numeracioun, addicioun, Subtraccioun, Mediacioun, Duplacioun, Multipliacioun, Dyvysioun, Progressioun, And of Rootes the extraccioun, and that may be hade in .2. maners, that is to sey in nombres quadrat, and in cubices: Amonge the whiche, first of Numeracioun, and afterwarde of pe opers by ordure, y entende to write.

The 9 rules  
of the Art.

4

8

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 48 b.

<sup>1</sup>For-sothe numeracioun is of euery numb're by competent figures an artificiale representacioun.

Figures,  
differences,  
places, and  
limits.

Sothly figure, difference, places, and lynes supposen o thyng 12  
 other the same, But they ben sette here for dyuers resons.  
 figure is clepede for protraccioun of figuracioun; Difference is  
 callede for therby is shewede euery figure, how it hathe difference  
 fro the figures before them: place by cause of space, where-in me 16  
 writethe: lynees, for that is ordeynede for the presentacioun of  
 euery figure. And vnderstonde that ther ben .9. lymytes of  
 figures that representen the .9. digitis that ben these. 0. 9. 8. 7. 6.  
 5. 4. 3. 2. 1. The .10. is clepede theta, or a cercle, other a cifre, 20  
 other a figure of nought for nought it signyfieth. Nathelesse she  
 holdyng that place giveth others for to signyfie; for withe-out cifre  
 or cifres a pure article may not be writte. And sithen that by  
 these .9. figures significatifes Ioynede with cifre or with cifres alle 24  
 nombres ben and may be representede, It was, nether is, no nede to  
 fynde any more figures. And note wele that euery digite shalle be  
 writte with oo figure allone to it aproprede. And alle articles by  
 a cifre, ffor euery article is namede for oone of the digitis as .10. of 28  
 1.. 20. of. 2. and so of the others, &c. And alle nombres digitale  
 owen to be sette in the first difference: Alle articles in the seconde.  
 Also alle nombres fro .10. til an .100. [which] is excludede, with .2.  
 figures mvst be writte; And yf it be an article, by a cifre first put, 32  
 and the figure y-writte towarde the lift honde, that signifieth the  
 digit of the whiche the article is namede; And yf it be a nombre  
 componede, first write the digit that is a part of that componede,  
 and write to the lift side the article as it is seide be-fore. Alle 36  
 nombre that is fro an hundrede tille a thousande excludede, owithe  
 to be writ by .3. figures; and alle nombre that is fro a thousande

The 9 figures.

The cipher.

The numeration

of digits,

of articles,

of compos-  
ites.

til .x. M<sup>t</sup>. mvst be writ by .4. figures ; And so forthe. And vnder-  
 stonde wele that euery figure sette in the first place signyfiethe his  
 digit ; In the seconde place .10. tymes his digit ; In the .3. place an  
 4 hundrede so moche ; In the .4. place a thousande so moche ; In the  
 .5. place .x. thousande so moche ; In the .6. place an hundrede  
 thousande so moche ; In the .7. place a thousande thousande. And  
 so infynytly mvltiplying by <sup>1</sup>these .3. 10, 100, 1000. And vnder-  
 8 stande wele that competently me may sette vpon figure in the place  
 of a thousande, a prike to shewe how many thousande the last figure  
 shalle represent. We writene in this art to the lift side-ward, as  
 arabiene writene, that weren fynders of this science, othere for this  
 12 resoun, that for to kepe a custumable ordre in redyng, Sette we  
 alle-wey the more nombre before.

The value  
due to posi-  
tion.

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 49.

Numbers are  
written from  
right to left.

**A**ddicioun is of nombre other of nombres vnto nombre or to  
 nombres aggregacioun, that me may see that that is come  
 16 therof as excrement. In addicioun, 2. ordres of figures and  
 .2. nombres ben necessary, that is to sey, a nombre to be addede  
 and the nombre wherto the addicioun sholde be made to. The  
 nombre to be addede is that pat sholde be addede therto, and shalle  
 20 be vnderwriten ; the nombre vnto the whiche addicioun shalle be  
 made to is that nombre that resceyuethe the addicion of pat other,  
 and shalle be writen above ; and it is convenient that the lesse  
 nombre be vnderwrit, and the more addede, than the contrary.  
 24 But whether it happe one other other, the same comythe of,  
 Therfor, yf þow wilt adde nombre to nombre, write the nombre  
 wherto the addicioun shalle be made in the omest ordre by his  
 differences, so that the first of the lower ordre be vndre the first  
 28 of the omyst ordre, and so of others. That done, adde the first of  
 the lower ordre to the first of the omyst ordre. And of suche  
 addicioun, other þere growith therof a digit, An article, other a  
 composede. If it be digitus, In the place of the omyst shalt thou  
 32 write the digit excrecyng, as thus :—

How the  
numbers  
should be  
written.

The method  
of working.

Begin at the  
right.

The resultant	2
To whom it shal be addede	1
The nombre to be addede	1

If the article ; in the place of the  
 omyst put a-way by a cifre writte,  
 and the digit transferrede, of þe  
 36 whiche the article toke his name, towarde the lift side, and be it  
 addede to the next figure folowyng, yf ther be any figure folowyng ;  
 or no, and yf it be not, leve it [in the] voide, as thus :—

The Sum is  
a digit,

or an article,

Resultans	2   7   8   2   7
Cui <i>debet</i> addi	1   0   0   8   4
Numerus addendus	1   7   7   4   3

The resultant	10
To whom it shalle be addede	7
The nombre to be addede	3

And yf it happe that the figure folowyng wherto the addicioun shalle be made by [the cifre of] an article, it sette a-side; In his

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 49 b. place write the <sup>1</sup>[digit of the] Article as thus :—

The resultant	17
To whom it shalle be addede	10
The nombre to be addede	7

And yf it happe that a figure of .9. by the figure that me myst adde [one] to, In the place of that 9. put a cifre *and* write *þe* article towarde *þe* lift honde as bifore, and thus :—

The resultant	10
To whom it shalle be addede	9
The nombre to be addede	1

or a compo-  
site.

And yf<sup>2</sup> [therefrom grow a] nombre componed,<sup>3</sup> [in the place of the nombre] put a-way<sup>4</sup> [let] the digit [be]<sup>5</sup> writ *þat* is part of *þat* composide, and *þan* put to *þe* lift side the article as before, and *þus* :—

The resultant	12
To whom it shalle be addede	8
The nombre to be addede	4

The trans-  
lator's note.

This done, adde the seconde to the seconde, and write above *oper* as before. Note wele *þat* in addicions and in alle spices folowyng, whan he seithe one the other shalle be writen aboue, and me most vse euer figure, as that eueri figure were sette by halfe, and by hym-selfe.

Definition of  
Subtraction.

**S**ubtraccioun is of .2. proposede nombres, the fyndyng of the excesse of the more to the lasse: Other subtraccioun is 20  
ablacioun of o nombre fro a-nother, that me may see a some left. The lasse of the more, or even of even, may be *with*draw; The more fro the lesse may neuer be. And sothly that nombre is more that hathe more figures, So that the last be signyficatifes: 24  
And yf ther ben as many in that one as in that other, me most deme it by the last, other by the next last. More-ouer in *with*-drawyng .2. nombres ben necessary; A nombre to be *with*draw, And a nombre that me shalle *with*-draw of. The nombre to be 28  
*with*-draw shalle be writ in the lower ordre by his differences; The

How it may  
be done.

What is re-  
quired. i

<sup>2</sup> 'the' in MS.

<sup>3</sup> 'be' in MS.

<sup>4</sup> 'and' in MS.

<sup>5</sup> 'is' in MS.



nombre fro the whiche me shalle withe-draw in the onyst ordre, so that the first be vnder the first, the seconde vnder the seconde, Write the greater number above.

And so of alle others. Withe-draw therfor the first of the lower 4 ordre fro the first of the ordre above his hede, and that wolle be Subtract the first figure if possible.

other more or lesse, *oper* egalle.

yf it be egalle or even the figure sette beside, put in his place a

The remanent	20
Wherof me shalle <i>with</i> -draw	22
The nombre to be <i>with</i> -draw	2

8 cifre. And yf it be more put away

*per*fro als many of vnitees the

lower figure conteynethe, and

writ the residue as thus

The remanent	2	2
Wherof me shalle <i>with</i> -draw	2	8
<i>pe</i> nombre to be <i>with</i> -draw		6

12	1	Remanens	2	2	1	8	2	9	9	9	8
		A quo sit subtraccio	8	7	2	4	3	0	0	0	4
		Numerus subtrahendus	6	5	2	[6]	.	.	.	.	6

And yf it be <sup>1 Fol. 50.</sup>

lesse, by-cause <sup>If it is not possible</sup> the more may <sup>1 borrow ten,</sup>

not be *with*-

16 draw ther-fro, borow an vnyte of the next figure that is worthe 10.

Of that .10. and of the figure that ye wolde have *with*-draw fro

be-fore to-gedre Ioynede, *with*-draw *pe* figure be-nethe, and put the residue in the place of the figure and then subtract.

20 put a-side as *pus* :—

And yf the figure wherof me shal borow the vnyte be one,

The remanent	1	8
Wherof me shalle <i>with</i> -draw	2	4
The nombre to be <i>with</i> -draw	0	6

If the second figure is one.

put it a-side, and write a cifre in the place *per*of, lest the figures

24 folowing faile of thaire nombre, and *pan* worche as it sheweth in this figure here :—

And yf the vnyte wherof me shal borow be a cifre, go

The remanent	3	0	9 <sup>3</sup>
Wherof me shal <i>with</i> -draw	3	1	2
The nombre to be <i>with</i> -draw	.	.	3

If the second figure is a cipher.

28 farther to the figure signy-

ficatife, and ther borow one, and retournyng bake, in the place of every cifre *pat* ye passide ouer, sette figures of .9. as here it is specifiende :—

32 And whan me comethe to the nombre wherof me intendithe, there re-

The remenaunt	2	9	9	9	9
Wherof me shalle <i>with</i> draw	3	0	0	0	3
The nombre to be <i>with</i> -draw					4

A justification of the rule given.

maynethe alle-wayses .10. ffor *pe* whiche .10. &c. The reson why

36 *pat* for every cifre left behynde me setteth figures ther of .9. this it is :—If fro the .3. place me borowede an vnyte, that vnyte by respect of the figure that he came fro representith an .C., In the

place of that cifre [passed over] is left .9., [which is worth ninety], and yit it remayneth as .10., And the same resone wolde be yf me hade borowede an vnyte fro the .4., .5., .6., place, or any other so vpwarde. This done, withdraw the seconde of the lower 4  
ordre fro the figure above his hede of þe omyst ordre, and wirche as before. And note wele that in addicion or in subtraccioun me may wele fro the lift side begynne and ryn to the right side, But it wol be more profitabler to be do, as it is taught. And yf thou 8  
wilt prove yf thou have do wele or no, The figures that thou hast withdraw, adde them ayene to the omyst figures, and they wol accorde with the first that thou haddest yf thou have labored 12  
wele; and in like wise in addicioun, whan thou hast addede alle thy figures, withdraw them that thou first laddest, and the same wolde retourne. The subtraccioun is none other but a prouffe of the addicioun, and the contrarye in like wise.

Why it is better to work from right to left.

How to prove subtraction,

and addition.

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 50 b.

Definition of mediation.

**M**ediacioun is the fyndyng of the halfyng of euery nombre, 16  
that it may be seyne what and how moche is euery halfe. In halfyng ay oo order of figures and oo nombre is necessary, that is to sey the nombre to be halfede. Therfor yf thou wilt half any nombre, write that nombre by his differences, and 20  
begynne at the right, that is to sey, fro the first figure to the right side, so that it be signyficatife other represent vnyte or eny other digitalle nombre. If it be vnyte write in his place a cifre for the figures folowyng, [lest they signify less], and write that vnyte 24  
without in the table, other resolue it in .60. mynutes and sette a-side half of tho minutes so, and reserve the remenaunt without in the table, as thus .30.; other sette without thus . $\overline{di}$ : that kepethe none ordre of place, Nathelesse it hathe signyficacioun. And yf 28  
the other figure signyfie any other digital nombre fro vnyte forthe, oþer the nombre is ode or evene. If it be

Where to begin.

If the first figure is unity.

What to do if it is not unity.

Halfede		2		2
to be halfede		4		4

And if it be odde, Take the next even vndre

hym conteynede, and put his half in the place of that odde, and of þe vnyte that remayneth to be halfede do thus:—

halfede		2		3
To be halfede		4		7

[di]

Then halve the second figure.

This done, the seconde is to be halfede, yf 36  
it be a cifre put it be-side, and yf it be signyficatife, other it is even or ode: If it be even, write in the place of þe nombres wiped out the halfe; yf it be ode, take the next even vnder it contenythe, and in the place of the Impar sette a-side put half of the even: The 40

32

36

vnyte that remaynethe to be halfede, respect hade to them before, is worthe .10. Dyvide that .10. in .2., 5. is, and sette a-side that one, and adde that other to the next figure

If it is odd, add 5 to the figure before.

4 precedent as here :—

Halfede			
to be halfede			

And yf þe addicioun sholde be made to a cifre, sette it a-side, and write in his place .5. And vnder this fourme me shalle write and worche,  
8 tille the totalle nombre be halfede.

doubled		2	6		8	9	0		10	17	4
to be doubled		1	3		4	4	5		5	8	7

12 **D**uplicacioun is agregacion of nombre [to itself] þat me may se the nombre growen. In doublynge ay is but one ordre of figures necessarie. And me most be-gynne with the lift

Definition of Duplation.

side, other of the more figure, And after the nombre of the more figure representithe. <sup>1</sup>In the other .3. before we begynne alle way fro the right side and fro the lasse nombre, In this spice and in alle

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 51.

16 other folowyng we wolde begynne fro the lift side, ffor and me bigon the double fro the first, omwhiie me myght double oo thyng twyes. And how be it that me myght double fro the right, that wolde be harder in techyng and in workyng. Therfor yf thou

Where to begin.

20 wolt double any nombre, write that nombre by his differences, and double the last. And of that doublyng other growithe a nombre digital, article, or componede. [If it be a digit, write it in the place of the first digit.] If it be article, write in his place a cifre

Why.

24 and transferre the article towarde the lift, as thus :—

double		10
to be doubled		5

What to do with the result.

And yf the nombre be componede, write a digital that is part of his composicioun, and sette the article to the

28 lift hande, as thus :—

doubled		16
to be doubled		8

That done, me most double the last save one, and what growethe perof me most worche as before. And yf a cifre be, touche it not. But yf any nombre shall be addede to the cifre, in þe place of þe figure wipede out me most write the nombre to be addede, as thus :—

doubled		6	0	6
to be doubled		3	0	3

In the same wise me shalle wirche of

36 alle others. And this probacioun : If thou truly double the halvis, and truly half the doubles, the same nombre and figure shalle mete, suche as thou labourede vpon first, And of the

Doubled		6	1	8
to be doubled		3	0	9

How to prove your answer.

40 contrarie.



Definition of  
Multiplica-  
tion.

**M**ultiplicacioun of nombre by hym-self other by a-nother, *with* propositiō .2. nombres, [is] the fyndyng of the thirde, That so oft conteynethe that other, as ther ben vnytes in the oper. In multiplicacioun .2. nombres pryncipally ben necessary, 4 that is to sey, the nombre multiplying and the nombre to be multipliede, as here;—twies fyve. [The number multiplying] is designede aduerbially. The nombre to be multipliede resceyvethe Multiplicand. a nominalle appellacioun, as twies .5. 5. is the nombre multipliede, 8 and twies is the nombre to be multipliede.

Resultans	1   1   0	1   3   2	6   6   8	0   0   8
Multiplicandus	.   .   5	.   .   4	.   3   4	0   0   4
Multiplicans	.   2   2	.   3   3	2   2   2	.   .   .

Product.

<sup>2</sup> Fol. 51 b.

Also me may ther vpone to assigne the. 3. nombre, the whiche is clepede product or provenient, of takyng out of one fro another: as twies .5 is .10., 5. the nombre to be multipliede, and .2. the 12 multipliant, and. 10. as before is come therof. And vnderstonde wele, that of the multipliant may be made the nombre to be multipliede, and of the contrarie, remaynyng euer the same some, and herofe comethe the comen speche, that seithe all nombre is convertede by Multiplying in hym-selfe.

There are 6  
rules of Mul-  
tiplication.

And ther ben .6. rules of Multiplicacioun; ffirst, yf a digit multiplie a

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	4	6	8	10	10 <sup>3</sup>	14	16	18	20
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	56	60
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

(1) Digit by  
digit.

digit, considere how many of vnytees ben betwix the digit by multiplying and his .10. bethe to-gedre accomptede, and so oft *with*-draw the digit multiplying, vnder the article of his denominacioun. Example of grace. If thou wolt wete how moche is .4. tymes .8., 28 <sup>4</sup>se how many vnytees ben betwix .8.<sup>5</sup> and .10. to-geder rekenede, and it sheweth that .2.: withdraw ther-for the quaternary, of the article of his denominacion twies, of .40., And ther remayneth .32., that is, to some of alle the multiplicacioun. Wher-vpon for 32 more evidence and declaracion the seide table is made. Whan a digit multipliethe an article, thou most bryng the digit into þe digit, of þe whiche the article [has]<sup>6</sup> his name, and every vnyte

See the table  
above.

(2) Digit by  
article.

<sup>1</sup> 2 in MS.

<sup>2</sup> sic.

<sup>4</sup> 'And' inserted in MS.

<sup>5</sup> '4 the' inserted in MS.

<sup>6</sup> 'to' in MS.

shal be stonde for .10., and every article an .100. Whan the digit <sup>(3) Composite by digit.</sup> multipliethe a nombre componede, þou most bryng the digit into aþer part of the nombre componede, so þat digit be had into digit 4 by the first rule, into an article by þe seconde rule; and afterwarde Ioyne the produccioun, and þere wol be the some totalle.

Resultans		1	2	6		7	3	6		1	2	0		1	2	0	8
Multiplicandus				2			3	2				6					4
Multiplicans			6	3		2	3			2	0			3	0		2

Whan an article multipliethe an article, the digit wherof he is namede is to be brought Into the digit wherof the oper is namede, 8 and every vnyte wol be worthe <sup>1</sup>an .100., and every article. a .1000. Whan an article multipliethe a nombre componede, thow most bryng the digit of the article into aither part of the nombre componede; and Ioyne the produccioun, and every article wol be 12 worthe .100., and every vnyte .10., and so wol be the some be opene. Whan a nombre componede multipliethe a nombre com- 16 ponede, every part of the nombre multiplying is to be hade into every part of the nombre to be multipliede, and so shalle the digit be hade twies, onys in the digit, that other in the article. The article also twies, ones in the digit, that other in the article. Ther- for yf thow wilt any nombre by hym-self other by any other multiplie, write the nombre to be multipliede in the ouer ordre by 20 his differences, The nombre multiplying in the lower ordre by his differences, so that the first of the lower ordre be vnder the last of the ouer ordre. This done, of the multiplying, the last is to be hade into the last of the nombre to be multipliede. Wherof than 24 wol be grow a digit, an article, other a nombre componede. If it be a digit, even above the figure multiplying is hede write his digit that come of, as it apperethe here :—

The resultant		6
To be multipliede		3
þe nombre multiplieng		2

And yf an article had be writ ouer the figure multiplying his hede, an article, 28 put a cifre þer and transferre the article towarde the lift hande, as thus :—

The resultant		1	0
to be multipliede			5
þe nombre multiplieng			2

And yf a nombre componede be writ ouer the figure multiplying is hede, write the digit in the nombre componede is place, and sette 32 the article to the lift hande, as thus :—

Multiply next  
by the last  
but one, and  
so on.

The resultant	1   2
To be multipliede	4
the nombre multiplying	3

This done, me most bryng the last  
save one of the multipliying into  
the last of þe nombre to be multi-  
pliede, and se what comythe therof 4

as before, and so do *with alle*, till me come to the first of the  
nombre multiplying, that must be brought into the last of the  
nombre to be multipliede, wherof growithe oþer a digit, an article,

1 Fol. 52 b.

1 other a nombre componede. If it  
be a digit, In the place of the  
ouerer, sette a-side, as here :

Resultant	6   6
to be multipliede	3
the nombre multipliying	2   2

8

If an article happe, there put a  
cifre in his place, and put hym to  
the lift hande, as here :

The resultant	1   1   0
to be multipliede	5
þe nombre multiplying	2   2

12

If it be a nombre componede, in  
the place of the ouerer sette a-side, write a digit that<sup>2</sup> is a part of  
the componede, and sette on the  
left honde the article, as here :

The resultant	1   3 <sup>3</sup>   2
to be multipliede	4
þe nombre multipliant	3   3

16

Then antery  
the multiplier  
one place.

That done, sette forwarde the  
figures of the nombre multiplying

by oo difference, so that the first of the multipliant be vnder the 20  
last save one of the nombre to be multipliede, the other by o place  
sette forwarde. Than me shalle brynge the last of the multipliant  
in hym to be multipliede, vnder the whiche is the first multipliant.

Work as be-  
fore.

And than wolle growe oþer a digit, an article, or a componede 24  
nombre. If it be a digit, adde hym even above his hede ; If it be  
an article, transferre hym to the lift side ; And if it be a nombre  
componede, adde a digit to the figure above his hede, and sette to  
the lift hande the article. And alle-wayes euery figure of the 28  
nombre multipliant is to be brought to the last save one nombre to  
be multipliede, til me come to the first of the multipliant, where  
me shalle wirche as it is seide before of the first, and afterwarde to  
put forwarde the figures by o difference and one till they alle be 32  
multipliede. And yf it happe that the first figure of þe multi-  
pliant be a cifre, and boue it is sette the figure signyficatife, write a  
cifre in the place of the figure sette a-side, as thus, etc. :

How to deal  
with ciphers.

The resultant	1   2   0
to be multipliede	6
the multipliant	2   0

<sup>2</sup> 'that' repeated in MS.

<sup>3</sup> '1' in MS.



And yf a cifre happe in the lower order be-twix the first and the last, and even above be sette the figure signyficatif, leve it vn- How to deal with ciphers. touchede, as here :—

- 4 And yf the space above sette be voide, in that place write thow a cifre. And yf the cifre happe

The resultant	2	2	6	4	4
To be multipliede			2	2	2
The multipliant	1	0	2		

- betwix þe first and the last to be multipliede, me most sette  
8 forward the ordre of the figures by thaire differences, for oft of duction of figures in cifres nought is the resultant, as here, <sup>1</sup> wherof 1 Fol. 53. it is evident and open, yf that the first figure of the nombre be  
12 to be multipliede be a cifre, vndir it shalle be none sette as here :—

Resultant	8	0	0	8
to be multipliede	4	0	0	4
the multipliant	2	.	.	.

16

Resultant	3	2	0
To be multipliede		8	0
The multipliant		4	

Vnder [stand] also that in multiplic- Leave room between the rows of figures. cion, division, and of rootis the extraccion, competently me may leve a mydel space betwix .2. ordres of

- figures, that me may write there what is come of addyng other  
withhe-drawyng, lest any thyng sholde be over-hippede and sette  
20 out of mynde.

- F**or to dyvyde oo nombre by a-nother, it is of .2. nombres pro- Definition of division. posed, It is forto depart the moder nombre into as many partis as ben of vnytees in the lasse nombre. And note  
24 wele that in makynge of dyvysion ther ben .3. nombres necessary : that is to sey, the nombre to be dyvydede ; the nombre dyvydyng and the nombre exeant, other how oft, or quocient. Ay shalle the  
nombre that is to be dyvydede be more, other at the lest even with  
28 the nombre the dyvysere, yf the nombre shalle be made by hole nombres. Therfor yf thow wolt any nombre dyvyde, write the  
nombre to be dyvydede in þe ouerer bordure by his differences, the  
dyvisere in the lower ordure by his differences, so that the last of  
32 the dyviser be vnder the last of the nombre to be dyvyde, the next last vnder the next last, and so of the others, yf it may competently be done ; as here :—

The residue		2	7
The quotient			5
To be dyvydede	3	4	2
The dyvyser		6	3

An example.

<sup>1</sup> Blank in MS.

Examples.

Residuūm				8					2	7			2	6
Quociens			2	1		2	2			5				9
Diuidendus	6	8	0		6	6		3	4	2		3	3	2
Diuiser	3	2			3				6	3			3	4

When the last of the divisor must not be set below the last of the dividend.

And ther ben .2. causes whan the last figure may not be sette vnder the last, other that the last of the lower nombre may not be *with*-draw of the last of the ouerer nombre for it is lasse than the lower, other how be it, that it myght be *with*-draw as for hym-self fro the ouerer the remenaunt may not so oft of them above, other yf þe last of the lower be even to the figure above his hede, and þe next last *oper* the figure be-fore þat be more þan the figure above sette. <sup>1</sup> These so ordeynede, me most wirche from the last figure of þe nombre of the dyvyser, and se how oft it may be *with*-draw of and fro the figure aboue his hede, namly so that the remenaunt may be take of so oft, and to se the residue as here :—

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 53<sup>o</sup>.

How to begin.

The residue			2	6
The quocient				9
To be dyvydede	3	3	2	
The dyvyser			3	4

An example.

Where to set the quotiente

And note wele that me may not *with*-draw more than .9. tymes nether lasse than ones. Therfor se how oft þe figures of the lower ordre may be *with*-draw fro the figures of the ouerer, and the nombre that shewith þe quocient most be writ ouer the hede of þat figure, vnder the whiche the first figure is, of the dyviser; And by that figure me most *with*-draw alle *oper* figures of the lower ordir and that of the figures aboue thaire hedis. This so done, me most sette forwarde þe figures of the diuiser by o difference towardes the right honde and worche as before; and thus :—

Examples.

Residuūm													1	2
quociens				6	5	4				2	0	0	4	
Diuidendus	3	5	5	1	2	2		8	8	6	3	7	0	4
Diuisor		5	4	3				4	4	2	3			

The quocient				6	5	4
To be dyvydede	3	5	5	1	2	2
The dyvyser		5	4	3		

A special case.

And yf it happe after þe setting forwarde of the figures þat þe last of the divisor may not so oft be *with*-draw of the figure above his hede, above þat figure vnder the whiche the first of the diuiser is writ me most sette a cifre in ordre of the nombre quocient, and sette the figures forwarde as be-fore be o difference alone, and so me shalle do in alle nombres to be dyvidede, for where the dyviser may

not be *with-draw* me most sette there a cifre, and sette forwarde the figures; as here:—

4	The residue						1	2
	The quocient				2	0	0	4
	To be dyvydede	8	8	6	3	7	0	4
	The dyvyser	4	4	2	3			

And me shalle not cesse fro  
suche setting of figures for-  
warde, nether of settinge of  
pe quocient into the dyviser,

Another ex-  
ample.

- neper of subtraccioun of the dyvyser, till the first of the dyvyser  
8 be *with-draw* fro pe first to be dividede. The whiche done, or  
ought,<sup>1</sup> oper nought shalle remayne: and yf it be ought,<sup>1</sup> kepe it in  
the tables, And euer vny it to pe diviser. And yf pou wilt wete  
how many vnytees of pe divisio<sup>2</sup> wol growe to the nombre of the  
12 divisere, the nombre quocient wol shewe it: and whan suche  
divisio<sup>2</sup> is made, and pou lust prove yf thow have wele done or  
no, Multiplie the quocient by the diviser, And the same figures  
wol come ayene that thow haddest bfore and none other. And  
16 yf ought be residue, than *with* addicio<sup>2</sup> therof shalle come the  
same figures: And so multiplicacio<sup>2</sup> provithe divisio<sup>2</sup>, and dyvi-  
sio<sup>2</sup> multiplicacio<sup>2</sup>: as thus, yf multiplicacio<sup>2</sup> be made, divide it  
by the multipliant, and the nombre quocient wol shewe the nombre  
20 that was to be multipliede, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Fol. 53<sup>a</sup>.

What the  
quotient  
shows.

How to prove  
your division,

or multiplica-  
tion.

- P**rogressio<sup>2</sup> is of nombre after egalle excesse fro oone or twayne  
take agregacio<sup>2</sup>. of progressio<sup>2</sup> one is naturelle or con-  
tynuelle, *pat* oper broken and discontynuelle. Naturelle it  
24 is, whan me begynnethe *with* one, and kepethe ordure ouerlepyng  
one; as .1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6., etc., so *pat* the nombre folowyng passithe  
the other be-fore in one. Broken it is, whan me lepithe fro o  
nombre till another, and kepithe not the contynuel ordire; as 1. 3.  
28 5. 7. 9, etc. Ay me may begynne *with* .2., as þus; .2. 4. 6. 8., etc.,  
and the nombre folowyng passethe the others by-fore by .2. And  
note wele, that naturelle progressio<sup>2</sup> ay begynnethe *with* one, and  
Interise or broken progressio<sup>2</sup>, omwhile begynnnythe *with* one,  
32 omwhile *with* twayne. Of progressio<sup>2</sup> naturell .2. rules ther be  
yove, of the whiche the first is this; whan the progressio<sup>2</sup> naturelle  
endithe in even nombre, by the half therof multiplie pe next totalle  
ouerere nombre; Example of grace: .1. 2. 3. 4. Multiplie .5. by .2.  
36 and so .10. comethe of, that is the totalle nombre perof. The seconde  
rule is suche, whan the progressio<sup>2</sup> naturelle endithe in nombre  
ode. Take the more porcio<sup>2</sup> of the oddes, and multiplie therby  
40 the totalle nombre. Example of grace 1. 2. 3. 4. 5., multiplie

Definition o.  
Progression.

Natural Pro-  
gression.

Broken Pro-  
gression.

The 1st rule  
for Natural  
Progression.

The second  
rule.

<sup>1</sup> 'nought' in MS.



.5. by .3. and thryes .5. shalle be resultant. so the nombre totale  
 is .15. Of progresioun intercise, ther ben also .2.<sup>1</sup> rules; and þe  
 first is þis: Whan the Intercise progression endithe in even nombre  
 by half therof multiplie the next nombre to þat halfe as .2.<sup>1</sup> 4. 6. 4  
 Multiplie .4. by .3. so þat is thryes .4., and .12. the nombre of alle  
 the progresioun, wolle folow. The seconde rule is this: whan the  
 progresioun intercise endithe in ode, take þe more porcioun of alle  
 þe nombre, <sup>2</sup>and multiplie by hym-selfe; as .1. 3. 5. Multiplie .3. 8  
 by hym-selfe, and þe some of alle wolle be .9., etc.

**H**ere folowithe the extraccioun of rotis, and first in nombre  
 quadrates. Wherfor me shalle se what is a nombre quadrat,  
 and what is the rote of a nombre quadrat, and what it 12  
 is to draw out the rote of a nombre. And before other note  
 this divisioun: Of nombres one is lyneal, anoper superficialle,  
 anoper quadrat, anoper cubike or hoole. lyneal is that þat is con-  
 sidrede after the processe, havynge no respect to the direccioun 16  
 of nombre in nombre, As a lyne hathe but one dymensioun that  
 is to sey after the lengthe. Nombre superficial is þat comethe  
 of ledynge of oo nombre into a-nother, wherfor it is called super-  
 ficial, for it hathe .2. nombres notyng or mesuryng hym, as a 20  
 superficialle thyng hathe .2. dimensions, þat is to sey lengthe and  
 brede. And for bycause a nombre may be hade in a-nother by .2.  
 maners, þat is to sey other in hym-selfe, oþer in anoper, Vnder-  
 stonde yf it be had in hym-self, It is a quadrat. ffor dyvisioun 24  
 write by vnytes, hathe .4. sides even as a quadrangille. and yf the  
 nombre be hade in a-noper, the nombre is superficiel and not  
 quadrat, as .2. hade in .3. makethe .6. that is þe first nombre super-  
 ficielle; wherfor it is open þat alle nombre quadrat is superficiel, 28  
 and not conuertide. The rote of a nombre quadrat is þat nombre  
 that is had of hym-self, as twies .2. makithe 4. and .4. is the first  
 nombre quadrat, and 2. is his rote. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1. / The  
 rote of the more quadrat .3. 1. 4. 2. 6. The most nombre quadrat 32  
 9. 8. 7. 5. 9. 3. 4. 7. 6. / the remenent ouer the quadrat .6. 0. 8.  
 4. 5. / The first caas of nombre quadrat .5. 4. 7. 5. 6. The rote .2.  
 3. 4. The seconde caas .3. 8. 4. 5. The rote .6. 2. The thirde  
 caas .2. 8. 1. 9. The rote .5. 3. The .4. caas .3. 2. 1. The rote 36  
 .1. 7. / The 5. caas .9. 1. 2. 0. 4. / The rote 3. 0. 2. The solide  
 nombre or cubike is þat þat comythie of double ledynge of nombre  
 in nombre; And it is clepede a solide body that hathe þer-in .3

<sup>1</sup> 3 written for 2 in MS.

- [dimensions] þat is to sey, lengthe, brede, and thiknesse. so þat Three dimensions of solids.  
 nombre hath .3. nombres to be brought forth in hym. But  
 nombre may be hade twies in nombre, for other it is hade in hym-  
 4 selfe, oþer in a-noþer. If a nombre be hade twies in hym-self, oþer  
 ones in his quadrat, þat is the same, þat a cubike <sup>1</sup>is, And is the 1 Fol. 54. Cubic numbers.  
 same that is solide. And yf a nombre twies be hade in a-noþer, the  
 nombre is clepede solide and not cubike, as twies .3. and þat .2.  
 8 makithe .12. Wherfor it is opyne that alle cubike nombre is solide, All cubics are solid numbers.  
 and not conuertide. Cubike is þat nombre þat comythe of ledynge  
 of hym-selfe twyes, or ones in his quadrat. And here-by it is open  
 that o nombre is the roote of a quadrat and of a cubike. Natheles  
 12 the same nombre is not quadrat and cubike. Opyne it is also that No number may be both linear and solid.  
 alle nombres may be a rote to a quadrat and cubike, but not alle  
 nombre quadrat or cubike. Therfor sithen þe ledynge of vnyte in  
 hym-selfe ones or twies nought comethe but vnytes, Seithe Boice in  
 16 Arsemetrike, that vnyte potencially is al nombre, and none in act. Unity is not a number.  
 And vndirstonde wele also that betwix euery .2. quadrates ther is a

Residuum			0				4			0				0																				
Quadrante		4		3		5		6		3		0		2		9		1		7		4		2		4		1		9		3		6
Duplum		1		2				1		0				2		6				[8]		2				[8]		2				2		
Subduplum			6			6			5			5		1		3			2			4			4									

Examples of square roots.

- meene proporcionalle, That is openede thus; lede the rote of o  
 quadrat into the rote of the oþer quadrat, and þan wolle þe meene  
 20 shew. Also betwix the next .2. cubikis, me may fynde a double  
 meene, that is to sey a more meene and a lesse. The more meene  
 thus, as to brynge the rote of the lesse into a quadrat of the more.  
 The lesse thus, If the rote of the more be brought Into the quadrat  
 24 of the lesse.

- <sup>3</sup>T To draw a rote of the nombre quadrat it is What-euer nombre be  
 proposede to fynde his rote and to se yf it be quadrat. And A note on mean proportionals.  
 yf it be not quadrat the rote of the most quadrat fynde out, vnder  
 28 the nombre proposede. Therfor yf thou wilt the rote of any quadrat  
 nombre draw out, write the nombre by his differences, and compt  
 the nombre of the figures, and wete yf it be ode or even. And yf  
 it be even, than most thou begynne worche vnder the last save one. To find a square root.  
 32 And yf it be ode with the last; and forto sey it shortly, al-weyes  
 fro the last ode me shalle begynne. Therfor vnder the last in an  
 od place sette, me most fynde a digit, the whiche lade in hym-selfe  
 it puttithe away that, þat is ouer his hede, oþer as neighe as me

Begin with the last odd place.

<sup>2</sup> 7 in MS.<sup>3</sup> runs on in MS.

Find the nearest square root of that number, subtract,

double it,

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 54 b.

and set the double one to the right.

Find the second figure by division.

Multiply the double by the second figure, and add after it the square of the second figure, and subtract.

may : suche a digit founde and withdraw fro his ouerer, me most double that digit and sette the double vnder the next figure towarde the right honde, and his vnder double vnder hym. That done, than me most fynde a no<sup>per</sup> digit vnder the next figure before the doubled, the whiche <sup>1</sup>brought in double settethe a-way alle that is ouer his hede as to rewarde of the doubled: Than brought into hym-self settithe all away in respect of hym-self, Other do it as nye as it may be do : other me may with-draw the digit <sup>2</sup>[last] founde, and lede hym in double or double hym, and after in hym-selfe ; Than Loyne to-geder the produccione of them bothe, So that the first figure of the last product be addede before the first of the first productes, the seconde of the first, etc. and so forthe, subtrahe fro the totalle nombre in respect of þe digit. And if it hap þat no digit may be

4

8

12

Examples.

The residue													5	4	3	2																		
To be quadrede		4		1		2		0		9		1		5		1		3		9		9		0		0		5		4		3		2
The double			4		0					2			4				6			0													0	
The vnder double		2			0			3		1			2			3		3			0				0								0	

founde, Than sette a cifre vndre a cifre, and cesse not tille thow fynde a digit ; and whan thow hast founde it to double it, ne<sup>per</sup> to sette the doubled forward nether the vnder doubled, Till thow fynde vndre the first figure a digit, the whiche lade in alle double, setting away alle that is ouer hym in respect of the doubled : Than lede hym into hym-selfe, and put a-way alle in regarde of hym, other as nyghe as thow maist. That done, other ought or nought wol be the residue. If nought, than it shewithe that a nombre componede was the quadrat, and his rote a digit last founde with vndere-double other vndirdoubles, so that it be sette be-fore : And yf ought<sup>3</sup> remayne, that shewith that the nombre proposede was not quadrat,<sup>4</sup> but a digit [last found with the subduple or subduples

Special cases.

16

The residue.

20

24

This table is constructed for use in cube root sums, giving the value of ab.<sup>2</sup>

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9
2		8		12		16		20		24		28		32		36
3		18		27		36		45		54		63		72		81
4		32		48		64		80		96		112 <sup>5</sup>		128		144
5		50		75		100		125		150		175		200		225
6		72		108		144		180		216		252		288		324
7		98		147		196		245		294		343		393		441
8		128		192		256		320		384		448		512		576
9		168		243		324		405		486		567		648		729 <sup>6</sup>

<sup>2</sup> 'so' in MS.

<sup>3</sup> 'nought' in MS.

<sup>4</sup> MS. adds here : 'wher-vpon se the table in the next side of the next leef.'

<sup>5</sup> 110 in MS.

<sup>6</sup> 0 in MS.



is] The rote of the most quadrat conteynede vndre the nombre  
 proposede. Therfor yf thou wilt prove yf thou have wele do or  
 no, Multiplie the digit last founde *with* the vnder-double *oper* vnder-  
 4 doublis, and thou shalt fynde the same figures that thou haddest  
 before; And so that nought be the <sup>1</sup>residue. And yf thou have  
 any residue, than *with* the addicioun *perof* that is reseruede *with-out*  
 in thy table, thou shalt fynde thi first figures as thou haddest them  
 8 before, etc.

How to prove  
 the square  
 root without  
 or with a  
 remainder.

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 55.

**H**ere folowithe the extraccioun of rotis in cubike nombres; <sup>Definition</sup>  
 wher-for me most se what is a nombre cubike, and what <sup>of a cubic</sup>  
 is his rote, And what is the extraccioun of a rote. A <sup>number and</sup>  
 12 nombre cubike it is, as it is before declarede, that comethe of <sup>a cube</sup>  
 ledyng of any nombre twies in hym-selfe, other ones in his quadrat. <sup>number and</sup>  
 The rote of a nombre cubike is the nombre that is twies hade in <sup>a cube</sup>  
 hym-selfe, or ones in his quadrat. Wher-thurgh it is open, that  
 16 euery nombre quadrat or cubike have the same rote, as it is seide  
 before. And forto draw out the rote of a cubike, It is first to  
 fynde *pe* nombre proposede yf it be a cubike; And yf it be not,  
 than thou most make extraccioun of his rote of the most cubike  
 20 vndre the nombre proposide his rote founde. Therfor proposede  
 some nombre, whos cubical rote *pou* woldest draw out; First thou  
 most compt the figures by fourthes, that is to sey in the place of  
 thousandes; And vnder the last thousande place, thou most fynde  
 24 a digit, the whiche lade in hym-self cubikly puttithe a-way that *pat*  
 is ouer his hede as in respect of hym, other as nyghe as thou  
 maist. That done, thou most trebille the digit, and that triplat  
 is to be put vnder the .3. next figure towarde the right honde,  
 28 And the vnder-trebille vnder the trebille; Than me most fynde a  
 digit vndre the next figure before the triplat, the whiche *with* his  
 vnder-trebille had into a trebille, afterwarde other vnder[trebille]<sup>2</sup>  
 had in his produccioun, puttethe a-way alle that is ouer it in  
 32 regarde of<sup>3</sup> [the triplat. Then lade in hymself puttithe away that  
*pat* is ouer his hede as in respect of hym, other as nyghe as thou  
 maist:] That done, thou most trebille the digit ayene, and the  
 triplat is to be sette vnder the next .3. figure as before, And  
 36 the vnder-trebille vnder the trebille: and than most thou sette  
 forward the first triplat *with* his vndre-trebille by .2. differences.  
 And than most thou fynde a digit vnder the next figure before the  
 triplat, the whiche *with* his vnder-triplat had in his triplat after-

Mark off  
 the places in  
 threes.

Find the first  
 digit;

treble it and  
 place it under  
 the next but  
 one, and mul-  
 tiply by the  
 digit.  
 Then find the  
 second digit.

Multiply the  
 first triplate  
 and the sec-  
 ond digit,  
 twice by this  
 digit.

<sup>2</sup> double in MS.

<sup>3</sup> 'it hym-selfe' in MS.

Subtract.

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 55 b.

warde, other vnder-treblis had in product <sup>1</sup>It sittethe a-way all that is ouer his hede in respect of the triplat than had in hym-self cubikly,<sup>2</sup> or as nyghe as ye may.

Examples.

Residuū							5					4		1	0	1	9																				
Cubicandus		8		3		6		5		4		3		2		3		0		0		7		6		7		1		1		6		6		7	
Triplum				6		0								1		8															4						
Subtriplum		2				0				[3]				6				7											2				2				

Continue  
this process  
till the first  
figure is  
reached.

Nother me shalle not cesse of the fyndynge of that digit, neither of his triplacioun, ne<sup>3</sup> of the triplat-is <sup>3</sup>anterioracioun, that is to sey, setting forwarde by .2. differences, Ne therof the vndre-triple to be put vndre the triple, Nether of the multiplicacioun perof, Neither of the subtraccioun, till it come to the first figure, vnder the whiche is a digitalle nombre to be founde, the whiche withe his vndre-treblis most be hade in tribles, After-warde without vnder-treblis to be hade into produccioun, setting away alle that is ouer the hede of the triplat nombre, After had into hymselfe cubikly, and sette alle-way

Examples.

that is ouer hym. Also note wele that the produccion com-

To be cubicede		1		7		2		8		3		2		7		6		8	
The triple				3		2										9			
The vnder triple				1		2				[3]						3		3	

ynge of the ledyng of a digite founde<sup>4</sup> me may adde to, and also with-draw fro of the totalle nombre sette above that digit so founde.<sup>5</sup> That done ought or nought most be the residue. If it be nought, It is open that the nombre proposede was a cubike nombre, And his rote a digit founde last with the vnder-triples: If the rote therof wex bade in hym-selfe, and afterwarde product they shalle make the first figures. And yf ought be in residue, kepe that without in the table; and it is opene that the nombre was not a cubike. but a digit last founde with the vndirtriplis is rote of the most cubike vndre the nombre proposede conteynede, the whiche rote yf it be hade in hym-selfe, And afterwarde in a product of that shalle growe the most cubike vndre the nombre proposede conteynede, And yf that be addede to a cubike the residue reseruede in the table, wolle make the same figures that ye hade first. <sup>6</sup>And

The residue.

Special cases.

<sup>6</sup> Fol. 56.

<sup>2</sup> MS. adds here: 'it settethe a-way alle his respect.'

<sup>3</sup> 'anterioracioun' in MS.

<sup>4</sup> MS. adds here: 'with an vndre-triple / other of an vndre-triple in a triple or triplat is And after-warde with out vndre-triple other vndre-triplis in the product and ayene that product that comethe of the ledyng of a digit founde in hym-selfe cubicalle' /

<sup>5</sup> MS. adds here: 'as ther had be a division made as it is openede before.'

yf no digit after the anterioracioun<sup>1</sup> may not be founde, than put there a cifre vndre a cifre vndir the thirde figure, And put forward Special case. be figures. Note also wele that yf in the nombre proposede ther ben no place of thowsandes, me most begynne vnder the first figure in the extraccioun of the rote. some vsen forto distingue the nombre by threes, and ay begynne forto wirche vndre the first of

The residue								0						1	1									
The cubicandus		8		0		0		0		0		8		2		4		2		4		1		9
The triple				2		0		0						6										
The vndertriple		[2]				0		0				2			6		2							

Examples.

the last ternary other uncomplete nombre, the whiche maner of 8 operacioun accordethe with that before. And this at this tyme suffisethe in extraccioun of nombres quadrat or cubikes etc.

1	2	3	4	5	6	
one.	x.	an.	hundrede	/ a thowsande	/ x. thowsande	/ An hundrede
			7			
			thowsande	/ A thowsande tymes	a thowsande	/ x. thousande tymes
12	a thousande	/ An hundrede thousande tymes	a thousande	A thou-		
	sande thousande tymes	a thousande	/ this is the x place	etc.		

A table of numbers; probably from the Abacus.

[Ende.]

<sup>1</sup> MS. anteriocacioun.<sup>2</sup> 4 in MS.



## Accomptynge by counters.

<sup>1</sup> 116 b. ¶ The seconde dialoge of accomptynge by counters.




*Mayster.*

**N**Owe that you haue learned the commen kyndes of Arithmetike with the penne, you shall se the same art in counters : whiche feate doth not only serue for them that can not write and rede, but also for them that can do bothe, but haue not at some tymes theyr penne or tables redye with them. This sorte is in two fourmes *commonly*. The one by lynes, and the other without lynes : in that y<sup>t</sup> hath lynes, the lynes do stande for the order of places : and in y<sup>t</sup> that hath no lynes, there must be sette in theyr stede so many counters as shall nede, for eche lyne one, and they shall supplye the stede of the lynes. *S.* By examples I shuld better perceauē your meanyngē. *M.* For example of the ly<sup>2</sup>nes : Lo here you se .vi. lynes whiche stande for syxe places so that the nethermost standeth for y<sup>e</sup> fyrst place, and the next aboue it, for the second : and so vpward tyll you come to the hyghest, which is the syxte lyne, and standeth for the syxte place. Now what is the valewe of euery place or lyne,

*Numeration.* you may perceauē by the figures whiche I haue set on them, which is accordynge as you learned before in the Numeration of figures by the penne : for the fyrste place is the place of vnities or ones, and euery counter set in that lyne betokeneth but one : and the seconde lyne is the place of 10, for euery counter there, standeth for 10. The thyrde lyne the place of hundredes : the fourth of thousandes : and so forth. *S.* Syr I do perceauē that the same order is here of

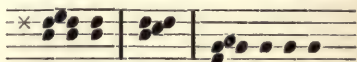
lynes, as was in the other figures <sup>3</sup>by places, so that you shall not nede longer to stande about Numeration, excepte there be any other difference. *M.* Yf you do vnderstande it, then how wyll you set 1543 ? *S.* Thus, as I suppose. *M.* You haue set y<sup>e</sup> places truly, but your figures be not mete for this vse :



- for the metest figure in this behalfe, is the figure of a counter round, as you se here, where I haue expressed that same summe. *S.* So that you haue not one figure for 2,  nor 3, nor 4, and so forth, but as many digettes as you haue, you set in the lowest lyne: and for euery 10 you set one in the second line: and so of other. But I know not by what reason you set that one counter for 500 betwene two lynes. *M.* you shall remember this, that when so euer you nede to set downe 5, 50, or 500, or 5000, or so forth any other number, whose numerator <sup>1</sup>is <sup>1</sup> 118 a. 5, you shall set one counter for it, in the next space aboue the lyne that it hath his denomination of, as in this example of that 500, bycause the numerator is 5, it must be set in a voyd space: and bycause the denominator is hundred, I knowe that his place is the voyde space next aboue hundredes, that is to say, aboue the thyrd lyne. And farther you shall marke, that in all workynge by this sorte, yf you shall sette downe any summe betwene 4 and 10, for the fyrste parte of that nomber you shall set downe 5, & then so many counters more, as there reste numbers aboue 5. And this is true bothe of digettes and articles. And for example I wyll set downe this summe 287965,  which summe yf you marke well, you nede none other examples for to lerne the numeration of <sup>2</sup>this forme. But this <sup>2</sup> 118 b. shal you marke, that as you dyd in the other kynde of arithmetike, set a pricke in the places of thousandes, in this worke you shall sette a starre, as you se here. *S.* Then I perceave numeration, but I praye you, howe shall I do in this arte to adde two summes or Addition. more together? *M.* The easyest way in this arte is, to adde but 2 summes at ones together: how be it you may adde more, as I wyll tell you anone. Therefore when you wyll adde two summes, you shall fyrst set downe one of them, it forseth not whiche, and then by it drawe a lyne crosse the other lynes. And afterward set downe the other summe, so that that lyne may be betwene them, as yf you wolde adde 2659 to 8342,  you must set your summes as you se here. And then yf you lyst, you <sup>3</sup>may adde the one to the other <sup>3</sup> 119 a. in the same place, or els you may adde them both together in a newe place: which waye, bycause it is moste playnest, I wyll shoue you fyrst. Therefore wyl I begynne at the vnites, whiche in the fyrst summe is but 2, and in y<sup>e</sup> second summe 9, that maketh 11, those do I take vp, and for them I set 11 in the new rounge, thus,



Then do I take vp all y<sup>e</sup> articles vnder  
a hundred, which in the fyrst summe  
are 40, and in the second summe 50, that maketh 90 : or you may  
saye better, that in the fyrste summe there are 4 articles of 10, and  
in the seconde summe 5, which make 9, but then take hede that  
you sette them in theyr <sup>1</sup>ryght  
lynnes as you se here. Where I



haue taken awaye 40 from the fyrste summe, and 50 from y<sup>e</sup>  
second, and in theyr stede I haue set 90 in the thyrde, whiche I  
haue set playnely y<sup>t</sup> you myght well perceauce it : how be it seynge  
that 90 with the 10 that was in y<sup>e</sup> thyrde rounge all redy, doth make  
100, I myghte better for those 6 counters set 1 in the thyrde  
lyne, thus : For it is all one summe as you may se, but  
it is beste, neuer to set 5 counters in any line, for that  
may be done with 1 counter in a hygher place. S. I iudge that  
good reason, for many are vnnefull, where one wyll serue.

M. Well, then <sup>2</sup>wyll I adde forth of hundredes : I fynde 3 in the  
fyrste summe, and 6 in the seconde, whiche make 900, them do I  
take vp and set in the thyrde rounge where is one hundred all redy,  
to whiche I put 900, and it wyll be 1000, therfore I set one  
counter in the fourth lyne for them all,  
as you se here. Then adde I y<sup>e</sup> thou-



sandes together, whiche in the fyrst summe are 8000, and in y<sup>e</sup>  
second 2000, that maketh 10000 : them do I take vp from those  
two places, and for them I set one counter in the fyfte lyne, and  
then appereth as you se, to be 11001, for so many doth  
amount of the addition of 8342 to 2659. S. Syr,  
this I do perceave : but how shall I set one summe to an other, not  
chaungynge them to a thyrde place? M. Marke well how I do it :

I wyll adde together 65436, and 3245,  
whiche fyrste I set downe thus. Then  
do I begynne with the smalest, which  
in the fyrst summe is . that do I take vp, and wold put to the  
other 5 in the seconde summe, sauyng that two counters can not  
be set in a voyd place of 5, but for them bothe I must set 1 in the  
seconde lyne, which is the place of 10, therfore I take vp the 5 of  
the fyrst summe, and the 5 of the seconde, and for them I set 1  
in the second lyne, as you se here.



Then do I lyke wayes take vp the 4  
counters of the fyrst summe and





seconde lyne (which make 40) and adde them to the 4 counters of the same lyne, in the second summe, and it maketh 80, But as I sayde I maye not conueniently set about 4 counters in one lyne, 4 therefore to those 4 that I toke vp in the fyrst summe, I take one also of the seconde summe, and then haue I taken vp 50, for whiche 5 counters I sette downe one in the space ouer y<sup>e</sup> second lyne, as here doth appere.

8 as well w<sup>t</sup> those had set downe y<sup>e</sup> 1 and then is there 80, 4 counters, as yf I do I take the 200 in the fyrste summe, and adde them to the 400 in the seconde summe, and it maketh 600, therefore I take vp the 2 12 counters in the fyrste summe, and 3 of them in the seconde summe, and for them 5 I set 1 in y<sup>e</sup> space above, thus. Then I take y<sup>e</sup> 3000 in y<sup>e</sup> fyrste summe, vnto whiche there are none in the

16 second summe agreynge, therefore I do onely remoue those 3 counters from the fyrste summe into the seconde, as here doth appere.

20 <sup>2</sup>And so you see the hole summe, that amounteth of the addytion of 65436 with 3245 to be 6868[1].

And yf you haue marked these two examples well, you nede no farther enstruction in Addition of 2 only summes: but yf you haue more then two summes to adde, you may adde them thus. Fyrst adde two of them, and then adde the thyrde, 24 and y<sup>e</sup> fourth, or more yf there be so many: as yf I wolde adde 2679 with 4286 and 1391. Fyrste I adde the two fyrste summes thus.

<sup>3</sup>And then I adde the thyrde thereto thus.

28 And so of more yf you haue them. S. Nowe I thynke beste that you passe forth to Subtraction, except there be any wayes to examyn this maner of Addition, then I thynke that were

32 good to be knowen nexte. M. There is the same profe here that is in the other Addition by the penne, I meane Subtraction, for that onely is a sure waye: but consyderynge that Subtraction must be fyrste knowen, I wyl fyrste teache you the arte of Subtraction, and 36 that by this example: I wolde subtracte 2892 out of 8746. These summes must I set downe as I dyd in Addition: but here it is best <sup>4</sup>to set the lesser nombre fyrste, thus. Then shall I begynne to sub-

40 tracte the greatest nombres fyrste (contrary to the vse of the penne)

1 121 b

12 122 a


3 122 b.

Subtraction.




116 a (ste).

y<sup>t</sup> is the thousandes in this example: therefore I fynd amongst the thousandes 2, for which I withdrawe so many from the seconde summe (where are 8) and so remayneth there 6, as this example showeth.


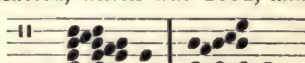
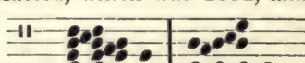
116 b.

the hun-  Then do I lyke wayes with 4  
dredes, of whiche in the  
fyrste summe <sup>1</sup>I fynde 8, and is the seconde summe but 7, out of  
whiche I can not take 8, therefore thus muste I do: I muste loke  
how moche my summe dyffereth from 10, whiche I fynde here to 8  
be 2, then must I bate for my summe of 800, one thousande, and  
set downe the excesse of hundredes, that is to saye 2, for so moche  
100[0] is more then I shuld take vp. Therefore from the fyrste  
summe I take that 800, and from the second summe where are 12  
6000, I take vp one thousande, and leue 5000; but then set I  
downe the 200 unto the 700 y<sup>t</sup> are there all redye, and make them  
900 thus.

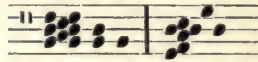
117 a.


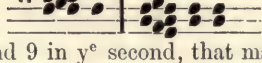




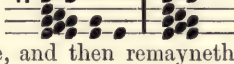

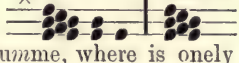

of tennes  Then come I to the articles  
where in the fyrste summe 16  
I fynde 90, <sup>2</sup>and in the seconde summe but only 40: Now con-  
syderyng that 90 can not be bated from 40, I loke how moche  
y<sup>t</sup> 90 doth dyffer from the next summe aboue it, that is 100 (or  
elles whiche is all to one effecte, I loke how moch 9 doth dyffer 20  
from 10) and I fynd it to be 1, then in the stede of that 90, I do  
take from the second summe 100: but consyderinge that it is 10  
to moche, I set downe 1 in y<sup>e</sup> nexte lyne beneth for it, as you se  
here. Sauynge that here  I haue set one 24  
counter in y<sup>e</sup> space in stede  of 5 in y<sup>e</sup> nexte  
lyne. And thus haue I subtracted all saue two, which I must bate  
from the 6 in the second summe, and there wyll remayne 4, thus.

117 b.


 So y<sup>t</sup> yf I subtracte 2892 from 8746, the re- 28  
mayner wyll be 5854, <sup>3</sup>And that this is truely  
wrought, you maye proue by Addition: for yf you adde to this  
remayner the same summe that you dyd subtracte, then wyll the  
formar summe 8746 amount agayne. S. That wyll I proue: and 32  
fyrst I set the summe that was subtracted, which was 2892, and  
then the remayner 5854, thus. Then   
do I adde fyrst y<sup>e</sup> 2 to 4, whiche   
maketh 6, so take I vp 5 of those counters, and in theyr stede I 36  
sette 1 in the space, as here appereth.

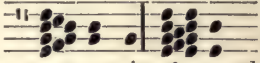
113 a.


<sup>4</sup>Then do I adde the 90 nexte aboue to   
the 50, and it maketh 140, therefore I take vp those 6 counters, and  
for them I sette 1 to the hundredes in y<sup>e</sup> thyrde lyne, and 4 in y<sup>e</sup> 40

- second lyne, thus.  Then do I come to  
the hundredes, of  whiche I fynde 8 in  
the fyrst summe, and 9 in y<sup>e</sup> second, that maketh 1700, therefore I  
4 take vp those 9 counters, and in theyr stede I sette 1 in the .iiii.  
lyne, and 1 in the space nexte beneth, and 2 in the thyrde lyne,  
as you se here.  Then is there left in the  
fyrste summe but only 2000, whiche I  
8 shall take vp from thence, and set <sup>1</sup> in the same lyne in y<sup>e</sup> second  
summe, to y<sup>e</sup> one y<sup>t</sup> is there all redy: *and* then wyll the hole  
summe appere (as you may wel se) to be 8746,  <sup>1</sup> 118 b.  
which was y<sup>e</sup> fyrst grosse summe, *and* therefore  
12 I do perceaue, that I hadde well subtracted before. And thus  
you may se how Subtraction maye be tryed by Addition. S. I  
perceaue the same order here w<sup>t</sup> counters, y<sup>t</sup> I lerned before in  
figures. M. Then let me se howe can you trye Addition by  
16 Subtraction. S. Fyrste I wyl set forth this example of Addition  
where I haue added 2189 to 4988, and the hole summe appereth  
to be 7177,  <sup>2</sup> Nowe to trye <sup>2</sup> 119 a.  
whether that summe be well  
20 added or no, I wyll subtract one of the fyrst two summes from  
the thyrd, and yf I haue well done y<sup>e</sup> remayner wyll be lyke  
that other summe. As for example: I wyll subtracte the fyrste  
summe from the thyrde, whiche I set thus   
24 in theyr order. Then do I subtract 2000   
of the fyrste summe from y<sup>e</sup> second summe, and then remayneth  
there 5000 thus.  Then in the thyrde lyne,  
I subtract y<sup>e</sup> 100  of the fyrste summe,  
28 from the second summe, where is onely 100 also, and then in y<sup>e</sup>  
thyrde lyne resteth nothyng. Then in the second lyne with his  
space ouer hym, I fynde 80, which I shuld subtract <sup>3</sup> from the <sup>3</sup> 119 b.  
other summe, then seyng there are but only 70 I must take it out  
32 of some hygher summe, which is here only 5000, therefore I take  
vp 5000, and seyng that it is to moch by 4920, I sette downe so  
many in the seconde roume, whiche with the 70 beyng there all  
redy do make 4990; & then the summes   
36 doth stande thus. Yet remayneth there  
in the fyrst summe 9, to be bated from the second summe, where  
in that place of vnities dothe appere only 7, then I muste bate a  
hygher summe, that is to saye 10, but seyng that 10 is more then  
40 9 (which I shulde abate) by 1, therefore shall I take vp one counter  
from the seconde lyne, *and* set downe the same in the fyrst <sup>4</sup> or <sup>4</sup> 120 a.



lowest lyne, as you se here.  And so haue I ended this worke, *and* the summe appereth to be y<sup>e</sup> same, whiche was y<sup>e</sup> seconde summe of my addition, and therefore I perceauē, I haue wel done. *M.* To stande longer about this, it is but folye: excepte that this you maye also vnderstande, that many do begynne to subtracte with counters, not at the hygheest summe, as I haue taught you, but at the nethermoste, as they do vse to adde: and when the summe to be abatyd, in any lyne appeareth greater then the other, then do they borowe one of the next hygher rounge, as for example: yf they shuld abate 1846 from 2378, they set y<sup>e</sup> summes thus.

<sup>1</sup> 120 b. <sup>1</sup> And fyrste they take 6 whiche is in the  12 lower lyne, and his space from 8 in the same rounes, in y<sup>e</sup> second summe, and yet there remayneth 2 counters in the lowest lyne. Then in the second lyne must 4 be subtracte from 7, and so remayneth there 3. Then 8 in the thyrde lyne and his space, from 16 3 of the second summe can not be, therefore do they bate it from a hygher rounge, that is, from 1000, and bycause that 1000 is to moch by 200, therefore must I sette downe 200 in the thyrde lyne, after I haue taken vp 1000 from the fourth lyne: then is there yet 20 1000 in the fourth lyne of the fyrst summe, whiche yf I withdrawe from the seconde summe, then doth all y<sup>e</sup> figures stande in this order.

 So that (as you se) it differeth not greatly whether you begynne subtraction at the hygher lynes, or <sup>2</sup> 121 a. at <sup>2</sup> the lower. How be it, as some menne lyke the one waye beste, so some lyke the other: therefore you now knowyng bothe, may vse whiche you lyst. But nowe touchyng Multiplication: you shall set your numbers in two rounes, as you dyd in those two other kyndes, but so that the multiplier be set in the fyrste rounge. Then shall you begyn with the hygheest numbers of y<sup>e</sup> seconde rounge, and multiply them fyrst after this sort. Take that ouermost lyne in your fyrst workyng, as yf it were the lowest lyne, <sup>28</sup> setting on it some mouable marke, as you lyst, and loke how many counters be in hym, take them vp, and for them set downe the hole multiplyer, so many tymes as you toke vp counters, reekenyng, I saye that lyne for the vnites: *and* when you haue so <sup>36</sup> done with the hygheest number then come to the nexte lyne beneth, *and* do euen so with it, and so with y<sup>e</sup> next, tyll you haue done all. And yf there be any number in a space, then for it <sup>40</sup> <sup>3</sup> shall you take y<sup>e</sup> multiplyer 5 tymes, and then must you reckon that lyne for the vnites whiche is nexte beneth that space: or els

Multipli-  
cation.

after a shorter way, you shall take only halfe the multiplyer, but then shall you take the lyne nexte above that space, for the lyne of vnites: but in suche workynge, yf chaunce your multiplyer be an  
 4 odde nomber, so that you can not take the halfe of it iustly, then muste you take the greater halfe, and set downe that, as if that it were the iuste halfe, and farther you shall set one counter in the space beneth that line, which you reckon for the lyne of vnities, or  
 8 els only remoue forward the same that is to be multiplyed. *S.* Yf you set forth an example hereto I thynke I shal perceauē you. *M.* Take this example: I wold multiply 1542 by 365, therefore I set y<sup>e</sup> numbers thus.

12 gynne at the 1000 in

<sup>1</sup> 123 b. same y<sup>t</sup> appeareth of y<sup>e</sup> other working before, so that <sup>1</sup>bothe sortes are to one entent, but as the other is much shorter, so this is playner to reason, for suche as haue had small exercyse in this arte. Not withstandynge you maye adde them in your mynde before you sette them downe, as in this example, you myghte haue sayde 5 tymes 300 is 1500, and 5 tymes 60 is 300, also 5 tymes 5 is 25, whiche all put together do make 1825, which you maye at one tyme set downe yf you lyst. But nowe to go forth, I must remoue the hand to the nexte counters, whiche are in the second lyne, and there must I take vp those 4 counters, settinge downe for them my multiplier 4 tymes, whiche thyng other I maye do at 4 tymes seuerally, or elles I may gather that hole summe in my 12 mynde fyrste, and then set it downe: as to saye 4 tymes 300 is 1200: 4 tymes 60 are 240: and 4 tymes 5 make 20: y<sup>t</sup> is in all 1460, y<sup>t</sup> shall I set

<sup>2</sup> 124 a.

downe also: as here you se. <sup>2</sup>whiche yf I ioyne



in one summe with the



formar numbers, it wyll appeare thus.

Then to ende this multiplycation, I remoue the fynger to the lowest lyne, 20 where are onely 2, them do I take vp,

<sup>3</sup> 124 b.

and in theyr stede do I set downe twyse 365, that is 730, for which I set <sup>3</sup>one in the space above the thyrd lyne for 500, and 2 more in the thyrd lyne with that one that is there all redye, and 24 the reste in theyr order, and so haue I ended the hole summe thus.










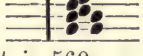

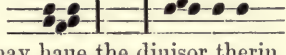

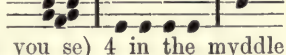
Wherby you se, that 1542 (which is the number of yeares syth Ch[r]ystes incarnation) beyng multiplyed by 365 28

which is the number of dayes in one yere) dothe amounte vnto 562830, which declareth y<sup>e</sup> number of daies sith Chrystes incarnation vnto the ende of 1542<sup>4</sup> yeares. (besyde 385 dayes and 12 houres for lepe yeares). S. Now wyll I proue by an other example, 32 as this: 40 labourers (after 6d. y<sup>e</sup> day for eche man) haue wrought 28 dayes, I wold <sup>5</sup>know what theyr wages doth amount vnto: In this case muste I worke doublye: fyrst I must multiplye the number of the labourers by y<sup>e</sup> wages of a man for one day, so wyll 36 y<sup>e</sup> charge of one daye amount: then secondarely shall I multiply that charge of one daye, by the hole number of dayes, and so wyll the hole summe appeare: fyrst therefore I shall set the summes thus.

<sup>5</sup> 125 a.

<sup>4</sup> 1342 in original.



- Where in the fyrste space is the multiplyer  
(y<sup>t</sup> is one dayes wages for one man) and in  
the second space is set the number of the worke men to be multiplyed : then saye I, 6 tymes 4 (rekenynge that second lyne as the lyne of vnites) maketh 24, for whiche summe I shulde set 2 counters in the thyrde lyne, and 4 in the seconde, therfore do I set 2 in the thyrde lyne, and let the 4 stand styll in the seconde lyne, thus.<sup>1</sup>  So apwereth the hole dayes wages to be 240℥.  that is 20s. Then do I multiply agayn the same summe by the number of dayes and fyrste I sette the nombers, thus.  Then bycause there are 12 counters in  dyuers lynes, I shall begynne with the hyghest, and take them vp, settinge for them the multiplyer so many tymes, as I toke vp counters, y<sup>t</sup> is twyse, then wyll y<sup>e</sup> summe stande thus.  Then come I to y<sup>e</sup> seconde lyne, and take  vp those 4 counters, settinge for them the multiplyer foure tymes, so wyll the hole summe appeare thus.<sup>2</sup>  So is the hole wages of 40 workemen, for 28  dayes (after 6℥. eche daye for a man) 6720℥. that is 560s. or 28 l*i*. *M*. Now if you wold proue Multiplication, the surest way is by Dyuision : therfore wyll I ouer passe it tyll I haue taught you y<sup>e</sup> arte of Diuision, whiche you shall worke thus. Fyrste sette downe the Diuisor for 24 feare of forgettynge, and then set the number that shalbe deuided, at y<sup>e</sup> ryghte syde, so farre from the diuisor, that the quotient may be set betwene them : as for example : Yf 225 shepe cost 45 l*i*. what dyd euery shepe cost? To knowe this, I shulde diuide the 28 hole summe, that is 45 l*i*. by 225, but that can not be, therfore must I fyrste reduce that 45 l*i*. into a lesser denomination, as into shyllinges : then I multiply 45 by 20, and it is 900, that summe shall I diuide by the number of <sup>3</sup>shepe, whiche is 225, these 32 two nombers therfore I sette thus.  Then begynne I at the hyghest lyne  of the diuidend, and seke how often I may haue the diuisor therin, and that maye I do 4 tymes, then say I, 4 tymes 2 are 8, whyche yf 36 I take from 9, there resteth but 1, thus  And bycause I founde the diuisor 4  tymes in the diuidente, I haue set (as you se) 4 in the myddle roume, which <sup>4</sup>is the place of the quotient : but now must I take 40 the reste of the diuisor as often out of the remayner : therfore come

<sup>1</sup> 125 b.

<sup>2</sup> 126 a.

Diuision.

<sup>3</sup> 126 b.

<sup>4</sup> 127 a.

I to the seconde lyne of the diuisor, sayeng 2 foure tymes make 8, take 8 from 10, and there resteth 2, thus. Then come I to the lowest number, which is 5, and multiply it 4 tymes, so is it 20, that take I from 20, and there remaineth nothyng, so that I se my quotient to be 4, whiche are in valewe shyllynges, for so was the diuident: and therby I knowe, that yf 225 shepe dyd coste 45 l'i. euery shepe coste 4 s. S. This can I do, as you shall perceauē by this example: 4

Yf 160 sowldyars do spende euery moneth 68 l'i. what spendeth eche man? Fyrst<sup>1</sup> bycause I can not diuide the 68 by 160, therfore I wyll turne the poundes into pennes by multiplicacion, so shall there be 16320 d'. Nowe muste I diuide this summe by the 12 number of sowldyars, therfore I set them in order, thus. Then begyn I at the highest place of the diuident, sekyng my diuisor there, whiche I fynde ones, Therefore set I 1 in the nether lyne. M. Not in the nether line of the hole summe, but in the nether lyne of that worke, whiche is the thyrde lyne. S. So standeth it with reason. 16

M. Then thus do they stande.<sup>2</sup> Then seke I agayne in the reste, how often I may fynde my diuisor, and I se that in the 300 I myghte fynde 100 thre tymes, but then the 60 wyll not be so often founde in 20, therfore I take 2 for my quotient: then take I 100 twyse from 300, and there resteth 100, out of whiche with the 20 (that maketh 24 120) I may take 60 also twyse, and then standeth the numbers thus, 20

<sup>3</sup> where I haue sette the quotient 2 in the lowest lyne: So is euery sowldyars portion 102 d'. that is 8 s. 6 d'. M. But yet bycause you shall perceauē iustly the reason of Diuision, it shall be good that you do set your diuisor styll agaynst those nombres from whiche you do take it: as by this example I wyll declare. Yf y<sup>e</sup> purchase of 200 acres of ground dyd coste 290 l'i. what dyd one acre coste? Fyrst<sup>3</sup> wyl I turne the poundes into pennes, so wyll there be 69600 d'. Then in settinge downe these numbers I shall do thus. Fyrst set the diuident on the ryghte hande as it oughte, and then 28

<sup>4</sup> the diuisor on the lefte hande agaynst those numbers, from which I entende to take hym fyrst as here you se, wher I haue set the diuisor two lynes hygher then is theyr owne place. S. This is lyke the order of diuision by the penne. 40

<sup>1</sup> 127 b.<sup>2</sup> 128 a.<sup>3</sup> 128 b.<sup>4</sup> 129 a.

*M.* Truth you say, and nowe must I set y<sup>e</sup> quotient of this worke in the thyrde lyne, for that is the lyne of vnities in respect to the diuisor in this worke. Then I seke howe often the diuisor  
4 maye be founde in the diuident, and that I fynde 3 tymes, then set I 3 in the thyrde lyne for the quotient, and take awaye that 60000 from the diuident, and farther I do set the diuisor one line lower, as yow se here.



<sup>1</sup> 129 b.

8 <sup>1</sup> And then seke I how often the diuisor wyll be taken from the nomber agaynste it, whiche wyll be 4 tymes and 1 remaynyng. *S.* But what yf it chaunce that when the diuisor is so remoued, it can not be ones taken out of the  
12 diuident agaynste it? *M.* Then must the diuisor be set in an other line lower. *S.* So was it in diuision by the penne, and therefore was there a cypher set in the quotient: but howe shall that be noted here? *M.* Here nedeth no token, for the lynes do  
16 represente the places: onely loke that you set your quotient in that place which standeth for vnities in respect of the diuisor: but now to returne to the example, I fynde the diuisor 4 tymes in the diuidente, and 1 remaynyng, for 4 tymes 2 make 8, which I take  
20 from 9, and there resteth 1, as this figure sheweth: and in the myddle space for the quotient I set 4 in the seconde lyne, whiche is in this worke the place of vnities.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> 130 a.

Then remoue I y<sup>e</sup> diuisor to the next  
24 lower line, and seke how often I may haue it in the dyuident, which I may do here 8 tymes iust, and nothyng remayne, as in this fourme,  
the hole quoti-



where you may se that ent is 348 d', that is



28 29 s. wherby I knowe that so moche coste the purchase of one aker. *S.* Now resteth the profes of Multiplication, and also of Diuision. *M.* Ther best profes are eche <sup>3</sup> one by the other, for

<sup>3</sup> 130 b.

Multiplication is proued by Diuision, and Diuision by Multiplication, as in the worke by the penne you learned. *S.* Yf that be all, you shall not nede to repete agayne that, y<sup>t</sup> was suffieciently taughte all redye: and excepte you wyll teache me any other feate, here maye you make an ende of this arte I suppose. *M.* So  
36 wyll I do as touchyng hole nomber, and as for broken nomber, I wyll not trouble your wytte with it, tyll you haue practised this so well, y<sup>t</sup> you be full perfecte, so that you nede not to doubt in any poynte that I haue taught you, and thenne maye I boldly  
40 enstructe you in y<sup>e</sup> arte of fractions or broken nomber, wherin I



<sup>1</sup> 131 a.  
Merchants'  
casting.

wyll also shoue you the reasons of all that you haue nowe learned. But yet before I make an ende, I wyll shoue you the order of comen castyng, wher in are bothe pennes, shylynges, and poundes, procedyng by no grounded reason, but onely by a receaued <sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup>fourme, and that dyuersly of dyuers men: for marchauntes vse one fourme, and auditors an other: But fyrste for marchauntes fourme marke this example here,  in which I haue expressed this summe 198l*i*.<sup>2</sup> 19s. 11d'. So that <sup>8</sup> you maye se that the lowest lyne serueth for pennes, the next aboue for shylynges, the thyrd for poundes, and the fourth for scores of poundes. And farther you maye se, that the space betwene pennes and shylynges may receaue but one <sup>12</sup> counter (as all other spaces lyke wayes do) and that one standeth in that place for 6d'. Lyke wayes betwene the shylynges and the poundes, one counter standeth for 10s. And betwene the poundes and 20l*i*. one counter standeth for 10 poundes. But <sup>16</sup> besyde those you maye see at the left syde of shylynges, that one counter standeth alone, and betokeneth 5s. <sup>3</sup> So agaynste the poundes, that one counter standeth for 5l*i*. And agaynst the 20 poundes, the one counter standeth for 5 score poundes, that is <sup>20</sup> 100l*i*. so that euery syde counter is 5 tymes so moch as one of them agaynst whiche he standeth. Now for the accompt of auditors take this example.  where I haue expressed y<sup>e</sup> same summe 198l*i*. <sup>24</sup> 19s. 11d'. But here you se the pennes stande toward y<sup>e</sup> ryght hande, and the other encreasyng orderly toward the lefte hande. Agayne you maye se, that auditours wyll make 2 lynes (yea and more) for pennes, shylynges, and all other valewes, yf theyr <sup>28</sup> summes extende therto. Also you se, that they set one counter at the ryght ende of eche rowe, whiche so set there standeth for 5 of <sup>32</sup> that rouse: and on <sup>4</sup> the lefte corner of the rowe it standeth for 10, of y<sup>e</sup> same row. But now yf you wold adde other subtracte <sup>36</sup> after any of both those sortes, yf you marke y<sup>e</sup> order of y<sup>t</sup> other feate which I taught you, you may easely do the same here without moch teachyng: for in Addition you must fyrst set downe one summe and to the same set the other orderly, and lyke maner yf you haue many: but in Subtraction you must sette downe fyrst the greatest summe, and from it must you abate that other euery denomination from his dewe place. S. I do not doubte but with a

<sup>3</sup> 131 b.  
Auditors'  
casting.

<sup>4</sup> 132 a.

<sup>2</sup> 168 in original.

lytell practise I shall attayne these bothe: but how shall I multiply  
and diuide after these fourmes? *M.* You can not duely do none  
of both by these sortes, therefore in suche case, you must resort to  
4 your other artes. *S.* Syr, yet I se not by these sortes how to  
expresse hundreddes, yf they excede one hundred, nother yet  
thousandes. *M.* They that vse such accomptes that it excede 200  
1 in one summe, they sette no 5 at the lefte hande of the scores of  
8 poundes, but they set all the hundredes in an other farther rowe  
and 500 at the lefte hand therof, and the thousandes they set in a  
farther rowe yet, and at the lefte syde therof they sette the 5000,  
and in the space ouer they sette the 10000, and in a hygher rowe  
12 20000, whiche all I haue expressed in this example, which is  
978691i. 12s. 9d' ob. q. for I had not told you before where,  
nother how you shuld set downe farthynges, which  
(as you se here) must be set in a voyde space  
16 sydelynge beneth the pennes: for q one counter:  
for ob. 2 counters: for ob. q. 3 counters: and  
more there can not be, for 4 farthynges 2do make  
1d'. which must be set in his dewe place. And yf you desyre  
20 y<sup>e</sup> same summe after audytors maner, lo here it is.

1 132 b.

2 133 a.

























But in this thyng, you shall take this for suffeycent, and the reste  
you shall obserue as you maye se by the working of eche sorte : for  
the dyuers wittes of men haue inuented dyuers and sundry wayes  
24 almost vnnumerable. But one feate I shall teache you, whiche not  
only for the straungenes and secretnes is moche pleasaunt, but also  
for the good commoditie of it ryghte worthy to be well marked.  
This feate hath ben vsed aboue 2000 yeares at the leaste, and yet  
28 was it neuer comenly knowen, especyally in Englysshe it was  
neuer taughte yet. This is the arte of nombrynge on the hand,  
with diuers gestures of the fyngers, expressynge any summe con-  
ceaued in the <sup>3</sup>mynde. And fyrst to begynne, yf you wyll expresse  
32 any summe vnder 100, you shall expresse it with your lefte hande :  
and from 100 vnto 10000, you shall expresse it with your ryght  
hande, as here orderly by this table folowyng you may perceauē.

3 133 b.

¶ Here foloweth the table  
of the arte of the  
hande

# The arte of nombrynge by the hande.

134

			
1	10	100	1000
			
2	20	200	2000
			
3	30	300	3000
			
4	40	400	4000
			
5	50	500	5000
			
6	60	600	6000
			
7	70	700	7000
			
8	80	800	8000
			
9	90	900	9000

134b. 1<sup>1</sup>In which as you may se 1 is expressed by y<sup>e</sup> lyttle fynger of y<sup>e</sup>  
 2 lefte hande closely and harde croked. \*[2 is declared by lyke bow-  
 ynge of the weddyng fynger (whiche is the nexte to the lyttell  
 3 fynger) together with the lytell fynger. [3 is signified by the  
 4 myddle fynger bowed in lyke maner, with those other two. [4 is  
 declared by the bowyng of the myddle fynger and the ryng

\* Bracket ([) denotes new paragraph in original.



fynger, or weddyng fynger, with the other all stretched forth.  
 [5 is represented by the myddle fynger onely bowed. [And 6 by <sup>5, 6</sup> the weddyng fynger only crooked: and this you may marke in  
 4 these a certayne order. But now 7, 8, and 9, are expressed with  
 the bowynge of the same fyngers as are 1, 2, and 3, but after an  
 other fourme. [For 7 is declared by the bowynge of the lytell <sup>7</sup>  
 fynger, as is 1, saue that for 1 the fynger is clasped in, harde *and*  
 8 <sup>1</sup>rounde, but for to expresse 7, you shall bowe the myddle ioynte <sup>1 135 a.</sup>  
 of the lytell fynger only, and holde the other ioyntes streyght.  
*S.* Yf you wyll geue me leue to expresse it after my rude maner,  
 thus I vnderstand your meanyng: that 1 is expressed by crookyng  
 12 in the lytell fynger lyke the head of a bysshoppes bagle: and 7 is  
 declared by the same fynger bowed lyke a gybbet. *M.* So I  
 perceauē, you vnderstande it. [Then to expresse 8, you shall bowe <sup>8</sup>  
 after the same maner both the lytell fynger and the rynge fynger.  
 16 [And yf you bowe lyke wayes with them the myddle fynger, then  
 doth it betoken 9. [Now to expresse 10, you shall bowe your <sup>9, 10</sup>  
 fore fynger rounde, and set the ende of it on the hyghest ioynte of  
 the thombe. [And for to expresse 20, you must set your fyngers <sup>20</sup>  
 20 streyght, and the ende of your thombe to the partition of the <sup>2</sup>fore <sup>2 135 b.</sup>  
 moste and myddle fynger. [30 is represented by the ioynyng <sup>30</sup>  
 together of y<sup>e</sup> headdes of the foremost fynger and the thombe.  
 [40 is declared by settinge of the thombe crossewayes on the fore- <sup>40</sup>  
 24 most fynger. [50 is signified by ryght stretchyng forth of the <sup>50</sup>  
 fyngers ioyntly, and applyenge of the thombes ende to the partition  
 of the myddle fynger *and* the rynge fynger, or weddyng fynger.  
 [60 is formed by bendyng of the thombe croked and crosseynge it <sup>60</sup>  
 28 with the fore fynger. [70 is expressed by the bowynge of the <sup>70</sup>  
 foremost fynger, and settinge the ende of the thombe between the  
 2 foremost or hyghest ioyntes of it. [80 is expressed by settinge <sup>80</sup>  
 of the foremost fynger crossewayes on the thombe, so that 80  
 32 dyffereth thus from 40, that for 80 the forefynger is set crosse on  
 the thombe, and for 40 the thombe is set crosse ouer y<sup>e</sup> forefynger.  
<sup>3</sup>[90 is signified, by bendyng the fore fynger, and settinge the ende <sup>90</sup> <sup>3 136 a.</sup>  
 of it in the innermost ioynte of y<sup>e</sup> thombe, that is euen at the foote  
 36 of it. And thus are all the numbers ended vnder 100. *S.* In  
 dede these be all the numbers from 1 to 10, *and* then all the  
 tenthes within 100, but this teacyed me not how to expresse 11, <sup>11</sup>  
 12, 13, *etc.* 21, 22, 23, *etc.* and such lyke. *M.* You can lytell <sup>12, 13, 21, 22,</sup>  
 40 vnderstande, yf you can not do that without teachyng: what is <sup>23</sup>

11? is it not 10 and 1? then expresse 10 as you were taught, and 1 also, and that is 11: and for 12 expresse 10 and 2: for 23 set 20 and 3: and so for 68 you muste make 60 and there to 8: and so  
 100 of all other sortes. [But now yf you wolde represente 100 other 4  
 any number aboue it, you muste do that with the ryghte hande,  
 after this maner. [You must expresse 100 in the ryght hand,  
 with the lytell fynger so bowed as you dyd expresse 1 in the left  
 hand. 8

<sup>1</sup> 136 b. <sup>1</sup>[And as you expressed 2 in the lefte hande, the same fasshyon  
 200 in the ryght hande doth declare 200.

300 The fourme of 3 in the ryght hand standeth for 300.

400 The fourme of 4, for 400. 12

500 Lykewayes the fourme of 5, for 500.

600 The fourme of 6, for 600. And to be shorte: loke how you did  
 expresse single vnities and tenthes in the lefte hande, so must you  
 expresse vnities *and* tenthes of hundredes, in the ryghte hande. 16  
 900 S. I vnderstande you thus: that yf I wold represent 900, I must  
 so fourme the fyngers of my ryghte hande, as I shuld do in my  
 left hand to expresse 9, And as in my lefte hand I expressed  
 1000 10, so in my ryght hande must I expresse 1000. 20

And so the fourme of euery tenthe in the lefte hande serueth  
 to expresse lyke number of thousandes, so y<sup>e</sup> fourme of 40 standeth  
 4000 for 4000.

8000 The fourme of 80 for 8000. 24

<sup>2</sup> 137 a. <sup>2</sup>And the fourme of 90 (whiche is  
 9000 the greatest) for 9000, and aboue that  
 I can not expresse any number. M.

No not with one fynger: how be it,  
 with dyuers fyngers you maye expresse 28  
 9999, and all at one tyme, and that lac  
 keth but 1 of 10000. So that vnder  
 10000 you may by your fyngers ex- 32  
 presse any summe. And this shal suf-  
 fyce for Numeration on the fyngers.

And as for Addition, Subtraction,  
 Multiplication, and Diuision (which 36  
 yet were neuer taught by any man as  
 farre as I do knowe) I wyll enstruct  
 you after the treatyse of fractions.

And now for this tyme fare well, 40

and loke that you cease not to  
practyse that you haue lear  
ned. *S.* Syr, with moste  
harty mynde I thanke  
you, bothe for your  
good learnyng, *and*  
also your good  
counsel, which  
(god wyllyng) I truste to folow.

Finis.



## APPENDIX I.

## A Treatise on the Numeration of Algorism.

*[From a MS. of the 14th Century.]*

To alle suche even nombrys the most have cifrys as to ten, twenty, thirty, an hundred, an thousand and suche other, but ye schal vnderstonde that a cifre tokeneth nothings but he maketh other the more significatyf that comith after hym. Also ye schal vnderstonde that in nombrys composyt and in alle other nombrys that ben of diverse figurys ye schal begynne in the ritht syde and to rekene backwarde and so he schal be wryte as thus—1000, the sifre in the ritht side was first wryte and yit he tokeneth nothings to the secunde no the thridde but thei maken that figure of 1 the more signyficatyf that comith after hem by as moche as he born oute of his first place where he schuld yf he stode ther tokene but one. And there he stondith now in the ferye place he tokeneth 12 a thousand as by this rewle. In the first place he tokeneth but hymself. In the secunde place he tokeneth ten times hymself. In the thridde place he tokeneth an hundred tymes hymself. In the ferye he tokeneth a thousand tymes hymself. In the fyfthe place 16 he tokeneth ten thousand tymes hymself. In the sexte place he tokeneth an hundred thousand tymes hymself. In the seveth place he tokeneth ten hundred thousand tymes hymself, &c. And ye schal vnderstond that this worde nombre is partyd into thre 20 partyes. Somme is callyd nombre of digitys for alle ben digitys that ben withine ten as ix, viii, vii, vi, v, iv, iii, ii, i. Articles ben alle thei that mow be devyded into nombrys of ten as xx, xxx, xl, and suche other. Composittys be alle nombrys that ben com- 24 ponyd of a digyt and of an articule as fourtene fyftene thrittene and suche other. Fourtene is componyd of four that is a digyt

and of ten that is an articule. Fyftene is compond of fyve that is a digyt and of ten that is an articule and so of others . . . . .

But as to this rewle. In the firste place he tokeneth but himself  
4 that is to say he tokeneth but that and no more. If that he stonde  
in the secunde place he tokeneth ten tymes himself as this figure 2  
here 21. this is oon and twenty. This figure 2 stondith in the  
secunde place and therfor he tokeneth ten tymes himself and ten  
8 tymes 2 is twenty and so forye of every figure and he stonde after  
another toward the lest syde he schal tokene ten tymes as moche  
more as he schuld token and he stode in that place ther that the  
figure afore him stondeth: lo an example as thus 9634. This  
12 figure of foure that hath this schape 4 tokeneth but himself for he  
stondeth in the first place. The figure of thre that hath this schape  
3 tokeneth ten tyme himself for he stondeth in the secunde place  
and that is thritti. The figure of sexe that hath this schape 6  
16 tokeneth ten tyme more than he schuld and he stode in the place  
yer the figure of thre stondeth for ther he schuld tokene but sixty.  
And now he tokeneth ten tymes that is sexe hundrid. The figure  
of nyne that hath this schape 9 tokeneth ten tymes more than he  
20 schulde and he stode in the place ther the figure of 6 stondeth inne  
for thanne he schuld tokene but nyne hundryd. And in the place  
that he stondeth inne now he tokeneth nine thousand. Alle the  
hole nombre of these foure figurys. Nine thousand sexe hundrid  
24 and foure and thritti.

## APPENDIX II.

### Carmen de Algorismo.

[From a B.M. MS., 8 C. iv., with additions from 12 E. 1 & Eg. 2622.]

Hec algorismus ars praesens dicitur <sup>1</sup> ; in qua Talibus Indorum <sup>2</sup> fruimur bis quinque figuris.	
0. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1.	
Prima significat unum : duo vero secunda :	4
Tercia significat tria : sic procede sinistre Donec ad extremam venies, qua cifra vocatur ;	
<sup>3</sup> [Que nil significat ; dat significare sequenti.]	
Quelibet illarum si primo limite ponas,	8
Simpliciter se significat : si vero secundo, Se decies : sursum procedas multiplicando. <sup>4</sup>	
[Namque figura sequens quevis signat decies plus, Ipsa locata loco quam significet pereunte :	12
Nam precedentes plus ultima significabit.]	
<sup>5</sup> Post predicta scias quod tres breuiter numerorum Distincte species sunt ; nam quidam digiti sunt ;	
Articuli quidam ; quidam quoque compositi sunt.	16
[Sunt digiti numeri qui citra denarium sunt ; Articuli decupli degitorum ; compositi sunt Illi qui constant ex articulis digitisque.]	
Ergo, proposito numero tibi scribere, primo	20
Respicias quis sit numerus ; quia si digitus sit,	
<sup>5</sup> [Una figura satis sibi ; sed si compositus sit,] Primo scribe loco digitum post articulum fac	
Articulus si sit, cifram post articulum sit,	24
[Articulum vero reliquenti in scribe figure.]	

<sup>1</sup> "Hec praesens ars dicitur algorismus ab Algore rege ejus inventore, vel dicitur ab *algos* quod est ars, et *rodos* quod est numerus ; quae est ars numerorum vel numerandi, ad quam artem bene sciendum inueniebantur apud Indos bis quinque (id est decem) figurae."—*Comment. Thomae de Novo-Mercatu. MS. Bib. Reg. Mus. Brit. 12 E. 1.*

<sup>2</sup> "Hae necessariae figurae sunt Indorum characteros." *MS. de numeratione. Bib. Sloan. Mus. Brit. 513, fol. 58.* "Cum vidissem Indos constituisse ix literas in universo numero suo propter dispositionem suam quam posuerunt, volui patefacere de opere quod sit per eas aliquidque esset levius discentibus, si Deus voluerit. Si autem Indi hoc voluerunt et intentio illorum nihil novem literis fuit, causa quae mihi potuit. Deus direxit me ad hoc. Si vero alia dicam preter eam quam ego exposui, hoc fecerunt per hoc quod ego exposui, eadem tam certissime et absque ulla dubitatione poterit inveniri. Levitasque patebit aspicientibus et discentibus." *MS. U. L. C., li. vi. 5, f. 102.*

<sup>3</sup> From Eg. 2622.

<sup>4</sup> 8 C. iv. inserts Nullum cipa significat : dat significare sequenti.

<sup>5</sup> From 12 E. 1.



Quolibet in numero, si par sit prima figura,  
Par erit et totum, quicquid sibi continetur;  
Impar si fuerit, totum sibi fiet et impar. 28

Septem<sup>1</sup> sunt partes, non plures, istius artis;  
Addere, subtrahere, duplare, dimidiare;  
Sexta est diuidere, set quinta est multiplicare;  
Radicem extrahere pars septima dicitur esse. 32  
Subtrahis aut addis a dextris vel mediabis;  
A leua dupla, diuide, multiplicaque;  
Extrahe radicem semper sub parte sinistra.

Addere si numero numerum vis, ordine tali 36 Addition.

Incepe; scribe duas primo series numerorum  
Prima sub prima recte ponendo figuram,  
Et sic de reliquis facias, si sint tibi plures.  
Inde duas adde primas hac condicione; 40

Si digitus crescat ex addicione priorum,  
Primo scribe loco digitum, quicumque sit ille;  
Si sit compositus, in limite scribe sequenti  
Articulum, primo digitum; quia sic iubet ordo. 44

Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram,  
Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris;  
Vel per se scribas si nulla figura sequatur.  
Si tibi cifra superueniens occurrerit, illam 48  
Deme suppositam; post illic scribe figuram:

Postea procedas reliquas addendo figuras.

A numero numerum si sit tibi demere cura, Subtraction.  
Scribe figurarum series, vt in addicione; 52

Maiori numero numerum suppone minorem,  
Siue pari numero supponatur numerus par.  
Postea si possis a prima subtrahe primam,  
Scribens quod remanet, cifram si nil remanebit. 56  
Set si non possis a prima demere primam;  
Procedens, vnum de limite deme sequenti;

<sup>1</sup> En argorisme de von prendre  
Vii especes . . . . .  
Adision subtracion  
Doublouison mediacion  
Monteploie et diuision  
Et de radix enstracion  
A chez vii especes sa voir  
Doit chascun en memoire auoir  
Letres qui figures sont dites  
Et qui excellens sont ecrites.—MS. *Seld. Arch.* B. 26.

	Et demptum pro denario reputabis ab illo, Subtrahe totaliter numerum quem proposuisti.	60
	Quo facto, scribe supra quicquit remanebit, Facque novenarios de cifris, cum remanebis, Occurrant si forte cifre, dum demseris vnum ; Postea procedas reliquas demendo figuras.	64
Proof.	<sup>1</sup> [Si subtraccio sit bene facta probare valebis, Quas subtraxisti primas addendo figuras. Nam, subtractio si bene sit, primas retinebis, Et subtractio facta tibi probat additionem.]	68
Duplation.	Si vis duplare numerum, sic incipe ; solam Scribe figurarum seriem, quaecumque voles que Postea procedas primam duplando figuram ; Inde quod excrescet, scribens, vbi iusserit ordo, Juxta precepta que dantur in addicione. Nam si sit digitus, in primo limite scribe ; Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram, Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris ; Vel per se scribas, si nulla figura sequatur : Compositus si sit, in limite scribe sequenti Articulum primo, digitum ; quia sic jubet ordo : Et sic de reliquis facias, si sint tibi plures.	72
	<sup>1</sup> [Si super extremam nota sit, monadem dat eidem, Quod tibi contingit, si primo dimidiabis.]	76
Mediation.	Incipe sic, si vis aliquem numerum mediare : Scribe figurarum seriem solam, velud ante ; Postea procedens medias, et prima figura Si par aut impar videas ; quia si fuerit par, Dimidiabis eam, scribens quicquit remanebit ; Impar si fuerit, vnum demas, mediare, Nonne presumas, sed quod superest mediabis ; Inde super tractum, fac demptum quod notat unum ; Si monos, dele ; sit ibi cifra post nota supra. Postea procedas hac condicione secunda : <sup>2</sup> Impar <sup>3</sup> si fuerit hic vnum demē priori, Inscribens quinque, nam denos significabit Monos prædictam : si vero secunda dat vnam, Illa deleta, scribatur cifra ; priori	80
		84
		88
		92
		96

<sup>1</sup> From 12 E. 1.<sup>2</sup> 8 C. iv. inserts Atque figura prior nuper fuerit mediando.<sup>3</sup> I. e. figura secundo loco posita.

Tradendo quinque pro denario mediato ;  
 Nec cifra scribatur, nisi inde figura sequatur :  
 Postea procdeas reliquas mediando figuras,  
 Quin supra docui, si sint tibi mille figure. 100  
<sup>1</sup> [Si mediatio sit bene facta probare valebis,  
 Duplando numerum quem primo dimidiasti.]

Si tu per numerum numerum vis multiplicare, Multiplica-  
tion.  
 Scribe duas, quascunque volis, series numerorum ; 104

Ordo tamen seruetur vt vltima multiplicandi  
 Ponatur super anteriorem multiplicantis ;  
<sup>2</sup> [A leua relique sint scripte multiplicantes.]  
 In digitum cures digitum si ducere, major 108

Per quantes distat a denis respice, debes  
 Namque suo decuplo tociens delere minorem ;  
 Sicque tibi numerus veniens exinde patebit.  
 Postea procedas postremam multiplicando, 112

Iuste multiplicans per cunctas inferiores,  
 Condicione tamen tali ; quod multiplicantis  
 Scribas in capite, quicquid processerit inde ;  
 Set postquam fuerit hec multiplicata, figure 116

Anteriores seriei multiplicantis ;  
 Et sic multiplica, velut istam multiplicasti,  
 Qui sequitur numerum scriptum quicunque figuris.  
 Set cum multiplicas, primo sic est operandum, 120

Si dabit articulum tibi multiplicacio solum ;  
 Proposita cifra, summam transferre memento.  
 Sin autem digitus excreverit articulusque,  
 Articulus supraposito digito salit ultra ; 124

Si digitus tamen, ponas illum super ipsam,  
 Subdita multiplicans hanc que super incidit illi  
 Delet eam penitus, scribens quod provenit inde ;  
 Sed si multiplices illam posite super ipsam, 128

Adiungens numerum quem prebet ductus earum ;  
 Si suprainpositam cifra debet multiplicare,  
 Prorsus eam delet, scribi que loco cifra debet,  
<sup>2</sup> [Si cifra multiplicat aliam positam super ipsam, 132

Sitque locus supra vacuus super hanc cifra fiet ;]

<sup>1</sup> So 12 E. 1 ; 8 C. iv. inserts—

Si super extremam nota sit monades dat eidem  
 Quod contingat cum primo dimiabis  
 Atque figura prior nuper fuerit mediando.

<sup>2</sup> 12 E. 1 inserts.



Mental  
Multiplica-  
tion.

Si supra fuerit cifra semper pretereunda est ;	
Si dubites, an sit bene multiplicando secunda,	
Diuide totalem numerum per multiplicantem,	136
Et reddet numerus emergens inde priorem.	
<sup>1</sup> [Per numerum si vis numerum quoque multiplicare	
Tantum per normas subtiles absque figuris	
Has normas poteris per versus scire sequentes.	140
Si tu per digitum digitum quilibet multiplicabis	
Regula precedens dat qualiter est operandum	
Articulum si per reliquum vis multiplicare	
In proprium digitum debebit uterque resolvere	144
Articulus digitos post per se multiplicantes	
Ex digitis quociens teneret multiplicatum	
Articuli faciunt tot centum multiplicati,	
Articulum digito si multiplicamus oportet	148
Articulum digitum sumi quo multiplicare	
Debemus reliquum quod multiplicaris ab illis	
Per reliquo decuplum sic omne latere nequibit	
In numerum mixtum digitum si ducere cures	152
Articulus mixti sumatur deinde resolvas	
In digitum post hec fac ita de digitis nec	
Articulusque docet exerescens in detinendo	
In digitum mixti post ducas multiplicantem	156
De digitis ut norma docet sit juncta secundo	
Multiplica summam et postea summa patebit	
Junctus in articulum primum articulumque	
<sup>2</sup> [Articulum purum comittes articulum que]	160
Mixti pro digitis post fiat et articulus vt	
Norma jubet retinendo quod egreditur ab illis	
Articuli digitum post iu digitum mixti duc	
Regula de digitis ut percipit articulusque	164
Ex quibus exerescens summe tu junge priori	
Sic manifesta cito fiet tibi summa petita,	
Compositum numerum mixto sic multiplicabis	
Vndecies tredecem sic est ex hiis operandum	168
In reliquum primum demum duc post in eundem	
Unum post deinde duc in tertia deinde per unum	
Multiplices tertia demum tunc omnia multiplicata	
In summa duces quam que fuerit te dices	172

<sup>1</sup> 12 E. 1 inserts to l. 174.<sup>2</sup> 12 E. 1 omits, Eg. 2622 inserts.

Hic ut hic mixtus intentus est operandum Multiplicandorum de normis sufficiunt hec.]	
Si vis dividere numerum, sic incipe primo ;	Division.
Scribe duas, quascunque voles, series numerorum ;	176
Majori numero numerum suppone minorem, ¹[Nam docet ut major teneat bis terve minorem ;]	
Et sub supprima supprimam pone figuram,	
Sic reliquis reliquas a dextra parte locabis ;	180
Postea de prima primam sub parte sinistra Subtrahe, si possis, quociens potes adminus istud,	
Scribens quod remanet sub tali conditione ;	
Ut totiens demas demendas a remanente,	184
Que serie recte ponentur in anteriori, Unica si, tantum sit ibi decet operari ;	
Set si non possis a prima demere primam,	
Procedas, et eam numero suppone sequenti ;	188
Hanc uno retrahendo gradu quo comites retrahantur,	
Et, quotiens poteris, ab eadem deme priorem,	
Ut totiens demas demendas a remanenti,	
Nec plus quam novies quicquam tibi demere debes,	192
Nascitur hinc numerus quociens supraque sequentem Hunc primo scribas, retrahas exinde figuras,	
Dum fuerit major supra positus inferiori,	
Et rursum fiat divisio more priori ;	196
Et numerum quotiens supra scribas pereunti,	
Si fiat saliens retrahendo, cifra locetur, .	
Et pereat numero quotiens, proponas eidem Cifram, ne numerum pereat vis, dum locus illic	200
Restat, et expletis divisio non valet ultra :	
Dum fuerit numerus numerorum inferiore seorsum Illum servabis ; hinc multiplicando probabis,	
Si bene fecisti, divisor multiplicetur	204 Proof.
Per numerum quotiens ; cum multiplicaveris, adde Totali summæ, quod servatum fuit ante,	
Reddeturque tibi numerus quem proposuisti ;	
Et si nil remanet, hunc multiplicando reddet,	208
Cum ducis numerum per se, qui provenit inde	Square Numbers.
Sit tibi quadratus, ductus radix erit hujus,	
Nec numeros omnes quadratos dicere debes,	
Est autem omnis numerus radix alicujus.	212

<sup>1</sup> 12 E. 1 inserts.

Quando voles numeri radicem querere, scribi Debet ; inde notes si sit locus ulterius impar, Estque figura loco talis scribenda sub illo, Que, per se dicta, numerum tibi destruat illum,	216
Vel quantum poterit ex inde delebis eandem ; Vel retrahendo duples retrahens duplando sub ista Que primo sequitur, duplicatur per duplicacionem, Post per se minuens pro posse quod est minuendum.	220
<sup>1</sup> Post his propones digitum, qui, more priori Per precedentes, post per se multiplicatus, Destruat in quantum poterit numerum remanentem, Et sic procedens retrahens duplando figuram,	224
Preponendo novam donec totum peragatur, Subdupla propriis servare docetque duplatis ; Si det compositum numerum duplicacio, debet Inscribi digitus a parte dextra parte propinqua,	228
Articulusque loco quo non duplicata resessit ; Si dabit articulum, sit cifra loco pereunte Articulusque locum tenet unum, de duplicata resessit ; Si donet digitum, sub prima pone sequente,	232
Si supraposita fuerit duplicata figura Major proponi debet tantummodo cifra, Has retrahens solito propones more figuram, Usque sub extrema ita fac retrahendo figuras,	236
Si totum deles numerum quem proposuisti, Quadratus fuerit, de dupla quod duplicasti, Sicque tibi radix illius certa patebit, Si de duplatis fit juncta supprima figura ;	240
Radicem per se multiplices habeasque Primo propositum, bene te fecisse probasti ; Non est quadratus, si quis restat, sed habentur Radix quadrati qui stat major sub eadem ;	244
Vel quicquid remanet tabula servare memento ; Hoc casu radix per se quoque multiplicetur, Vel sic quadratus sub primo major habetur, Hinc addas remanens, et prius debes haberi ;	248
Si locus extremus fuerit par, scribe figuram Sub pereunte loco per quam debes operari, Que quantum poterit suppressas destruat ambas,	

<sup>1</sup> 8 C. iv. inserts—Hinc illam dele duplans sub ei psalliendo  
Que sequitur retrahens quicquid fuerit duplicatum.



Vel penitus legem teneas operando priorem,	252
Si suppositum digitus suo fine repertus,	
Omnino delet illic scribi cifra debet,	
A leva si qua sit ei sociata figura ;	
Si cifre remanent in fine pares decet harum	256
Radices, numero mediam proponere partem,	
Tali quesita radix patet arte reperta.	
Per numerum recte si nosti multiplicare	
Ejus quadratum, numerus qui pervenit inde	260
Dicetur cubicus ; primus radix erit ejus ;	
Nec numeros omnes cubicatos dicere debes,	
Est autem omnis numerus radix alicujus ;	
Si curas cubici radicem quærere, primo	264 Cube Root.
Inscriptum numerum distinguere per loca debes ;	
Que tibi mille notant a mille notante suprema	
Initiam, summa operandi parte sinistra,	
Illic sub scribas digitum, qui multiplicatus	268
In semet cubice suprapositum sibi perdat,	
Et si quid fuerit adjunctum parte sinistra	
Si non omnino, quantum poteris minuendo,	
Hinc triplans retrahe saltum, faciendo sub illa	272
Que manet a digito deleta terna, figuram	
Illi propones que sub triplo asocietur,	
Ut cum subtriplo per eam tripla multiplicatur ;	
Hinc per eam solam productum multiplicabis,	276
Postea totalem numerum, qui provenit inde	
A suprapositis respectu tolle triplate	
Addita supprimo cubice tunc multiplicetur,	
Respectu cujus, numerus qui progredietur	280
Ex cubito ductu, supra omnes adimetur ;	
Tunc ipsam delens triples saltum faciendo,	
Semper sub ternas, retrahens alias triplicatas	
Ex hinc triplatis aliam propone figuram,	284
Que per triplatas ducatur more priori ;	
Primo sub triplis sibi junctis, postea per se,	
In numerum ducta, productum de triplicatis :	
Utque prius dixi numerus qui provenit inde	288
A suprapositis has respiciendo trahatur,	
Huic cubice ductum sub primo multiplicabis,	
Respectumque sui, removebis de remanenti,	
Et sic procedas retrahendo triplando figuram.	292

Et proponendo nonam, donec totum peragatur, Subtripla sub propriis servare decet triplicatis ; Si nil in fine remanet, numerus datus ante Est cubicus ; cubicam radicem sub tripla prebent,	296
Cum digito juncto quem supprimo posuisti, Hec cubice ducta, numerum reddant tibi primum. Si quid erit remanens non est cubicus, sed habetur Major sub primo qui stat radix cubicam,	300
Servari debet quicquid radice remansit, Extracto numero, decet hec addi cubicato. Quo facto, numerus reddi debet tibi primus. Nam debes per se radicem multiplicare	304
Ex hinc in numerum duces, qui provenit inde Sub primo cubicus major sic invenietur ; Illi jungatur remanens, et primus habetur, Si per triplatum numerum nequeas operari ;	308
Cifram propones, nil vero per hanc operare Set retrahens illam cum saltu deinde triplata, Propones illi digitum sub lege priori, Cumque cifram retrahas saliendo, non triplicabis,	312
Namque nihil cifre triplacio dicitur esse ; At tu cum cifram protraxeris aut triplicata, Hanc cum subtriplo semper servare memento : Si det compositum, digiti triplacio debet	316
Illius scribi, digitus saliendo sub ipsam ; Digito delete, que terna dicitur esse ; Jungitur articulus cum triplata pereunte, Set facit hunc scribi per se triplacio prima,	320
Que si det digitum per se scribi facit illum ; Consumpto numero, si sole fuit tibi cifre Triplato, propone cifram saltum faciendo, Cumque cifram retrahe triplam, scribendo figuram,	324
Preponas cifre, sic procedens operare, Si tres vel duo serie in sint, pone sub yma, A dextris digitum servando prius documentum. Si sit continua progressio terminus nuper	328
Per majus medium totalem multiplicato ; Si par, per medium tunc multiplicato sequentem. Set si continua non sit progressio finis : Impar, tunc majus medium si multiplicabis,	332
Si par per medium sibi multiplicato propinquum.	333

## INDEX OF TECHNICAL TERMS<sup>1</sup>

**algorisme**, 33/12 ; **algorism**, **augrym**, 3/3 ; the art of computing, using the so-called Arabic numerals.

The word in its various forms is derived from the Arabic *al-Khowarazmī* (i.e. the native of Khwarazm (Khiva)). This was the surname of Ja'far Mohammad ben Musa, who wrote a treatise early in the 9th century (see p. xiv).

The form *algorithm* is also found, being suggested by a supposed derivation from the Greek ἀριθμός (number).

**antery**, 24/11 ; to move figures to the right of the position in which they are first written. This operation is performed repeatedly upon the multiplier in multiplication, and upon certain figures which arise in the process of root extraction.

**anterioracioun**, 50/5 ; the operation of moving figures to the right.

**article**, 34/23 ; **articul**, 5/31 ; **articuls**, 9/36, 29/7, 8 ; a number divisible by ten without remainder.

**cast**, 8/12 ; to add one number to another.

'Addition is a *casting* together of two numbers into one number,'

8/10.

**cifre**, 4/1 ; the name of the figure 0. The word is derived from the Arabic *sifr* = empty, nothing. Hence *zero*.

A cipher is the symbol of the absence of number or of zero quantity. It may be used alone or in conjunction with digits or other ciphers, and in the latter case, according to the position which it occupies relative to the other figures, indicates the absence of units, or tens, or hundreds, etc. The great superiority of the Arabic to all other systems of notation resides in the employment of this symbol. When the cipher is not used, the place value of digits has to be indicated by writing them in assigned rows or columns. Ciphers, however, may be interpolated amongst the significant figures used, and as they sufficiently indicate the positions of the empty rows or columns, the latter need not be indicated in any other way. The practical performance of calculations is thus enormously facilitated (see p. xvi).

**componede**, 33/24 ; **composyt**, 5/35 ; with reference to numbers, one compounded of a multiple of ten and a digit.

**conuertide** = conversely, 46/29, 47/9.

**cubicede**, 50/13 ; **to be c.**, to have its cube root found.

<sup>1</sup> This Index has been kindly prepared by Professor J. B. Dale, of King's College, University of London, and the best thanks of the Society are due to him for his valuable contribution.



- cubike nombre**, 47/8 ; a number formed by multiplying a given number twice by itself, *e. g.*  $27 = 3 \times 3 \times 3$ . Now called simply a cube.
- decuple**, 22/12 ; the product of a number by ten. Tenfold.
- departys** = divides, 5/29.
- digit**, 5/30 ; **digitale**, 33/24 ; a number less than ten, represented by one of the nine Arabic numerals.
- dimydicion**, 7/23 ; the operation of dividing a number by two. Halving.
- duccioun**, multiplication, 43/9.
- duplacion**, 7/23, 14/15 ; the operation of multiplying a number by two. Doubling.
- i-mediet** = halved, 19/23.
- intercise** = broken, 46/2 ; intercise Progression is the name given to either of the Progressions 1, 3, 5, 7, etc. ; 2, 4, 6, 8, etc., in which the common difference is 2.
- lede into**, multiply by, 47/18.
- lyneal nombre**, 46/14 ; a number such as that which expresses the measure of the length of a line, and therefore is not necessarily the product of two or more numbers (*vide* Superficial, Solid). This appears to be the meaning of the phrase as used in *The Art of Nombryng*. It is possible that the numbers so designated are the prime numbers, that is, numbers not divisible by any other number except themselves and unity, but it is not clear that this limitation is intended.
- mediacioun**, 16/36, 38/16 ; dividing by two (see also **dimydicion**).
- medlede nombre**, 34/1 ; a number formed of a multiple of ten and a digit (*vide* componede, composyt).
- medye**, 17/8, to halve ; **mediete**, halved, 17/30 ; **ymedit**, 20/9.
- naturelle progressioun**, 45/22 ; the series of numbers 1, 2, 3, etc.
- produccioun**, multiplication, 50/11.
- quadrat nombre**, 46/12 ; a number formed by multiplying a given number by itself, *e. g.*  $9 = 3 \times 3$ , a square.
- rote**, 7/25 ; **roote**, 47/11 ; root. The roots of squares and cubes are the numbers from which the squares and cubes are derived by multiplication into themselves.
- significatyf**, significant, 5/14. The significant figures of a number are, strictly speaking, those other than zero, *e. g.* in 3 6 5 0 4 0 0, the significant figures are 3, 6, 5, 4. Modern usage, however, regards all figures between the two extreme significant figures as significant, even when some are zero. Thus, in the above example, 3 6 5 0 4 are considered significant.
- solide nombre**, 46/37 ; a number which is the product of three other numbers, *e. g.*  $66 = 11 \times 2 \times 3$ .
- superficial nombre**, 46/18 ; a number which is the product of two other numbers, *e. g.*  $6 = 2 \times 3$ .
- ternary**, consisting of three digits, 51/7.
- vnder double**, a digit which has been doubled, 48/3.
- vnder-trebille**, a digit which has been trebled, 49/28 ; **vnder-triplat**, 49/39.
- w**, a symbol used to denote half a unit, 17/33.

## GLOSSARY

ablacioun, taking away, 36/21  
 addyst, haddest, 10/37  
 agregacioun, addition, 45/22. (First example in N.E.D., 1547.)  
 a-jenenes, against, 23/10  
 allgate, always, 8/39  
 als, as, 22/24  
 and, if, 29/8; &, 4/27; & yf, 20/7  
 a-nendes, towards, 23/15  
 aproprede, appropriated, 34/27  
 apwereth, appears, 61/8  
 a-risyȝt, arises, 14/24  
 a-rowe, in a row, 29/10  
 arsemetrike, arithmetic, 33/1  
 ayene, again, 45/15  
  
 bagle, crozier, 67/12  
 bordure = ordure, row, 43/30  
 borro, *inf.* borrow, 11/38; *imp. s.* borowe, 12/20; *pp.* borwed, 12/15; borred, 12/19  
 boue, above, 42/34  
  
 caputule, chapter, 7/26  
 certayn, assuredly, 18/34  
 clepede, called, 47/7  
 competently, conveniently, 35/8  
 compt, count, 47/29  
 contynes, contains, 21/12; *pp.* contenythe, 38/39  
 craft, art, 3/4  
  
 distingue, divide, 51/5  
  
 egalle, equal, 45/21  
 excep, except, 5/16  
 exclusede, excluded, 34/37  
 excressent, resulting, 35/16  
 exeant, resulting, 43/26  
 expone, expound, 3/23

ferye = ferþe, fourth, 70/12  
 figure = figures, 5/1  
 for-by, past, 11/21  
 fors; no f., no matter, 22/24  
 forseth, matters, 53/30  
 forye = forþe, forth, 71/8  
 fyfye = fyftþe, fifth, 70/16  
  
 grewe, Greek, 33/13  
  
 haluendel, half, 16/16; haldel, 19/4;  
     *pl.* haluedels, 16/16  
 hayst, hast, 17/3, 32  
 hast, haste, 22/25  
 heer, higher, 9/35  
 here, their, 7/26  
 here-a-fore, heretofore, 13/7  
 heyth, was called, 3/5  
 hole, whole, 4/39; holle, 17/1; hoole, of three dimensions, 46/15  
 holdyþe, holds good, 30/5  
 how be it that, although, 44/4  
  
 lede = lete, let, 8/37  
 lene, lend, 12/39  
 lest, least, 43/27  
 lest = left, 71/9  
 leue, leave, 6/5; *pr.* 3 s. leues, remains, 11/19; leus, 11/28; *pp.* laft, left, 19/24  
 lewder, more ignorant, 3/3  
 lust, desirous to, 45/13  
 lyȝt, easy, 15/31  
 lymytes, limits, 34/18; lynes, 34/12; lynees, 34/17; Lat. limes, *pl.* limita s.  
  
 maystery, achievement; no m., no achievement, i.e. easy, 19/10  
 me, *indef. pron.* one, 42/1  
 mo, more, 9/16

**moder** = more (Lat. majorem), 43/22  
**most**, must, 30/3  
**multipliede**, to be m. = multiplying, 40/9  
**mynvtes**, the sixty parts into which a unit is divided, 38/25  
**myse-wroȝt**, mis-wrought, 14/11

**nether**, nor, 34/25  
**nex**, next, 19/9  
**noȝt**, nought, 5/7  
**note**, not, 30/5

**oo**, one, 42/20; **o**, 42/21  
**omest**, uppermost, higher, 35/26;  
     **omyst**, 35/28  
**omwhile**, sometimes, 45/31  
**on**, one, 8/29  
**opyne**, plain, 47/8  
**or**, before, 13/25  
**or** = *pe oper*, the other, 28/34  
**ordure**, order, 34/9; row, 43/1  
**other**, or, 33/13, 43/26; **other** . . .  
     or, either . . . or, 38/37  
**ouerer**, upper, 42/15  
**ouer-hippede**, passed over, 43/19

**recte**, directly, 27/20  
**remayner**, remainder, 56/28  
**representithe**, represented, 39/14  
**resteth**, remains, 63/29  
**rewarde**, regard, 48/6  
**rew**, row, 4/8  
**rewle**, row, 4/20, 7/12; **rewele**, 4/18;  
     **rewles**, rules, 5/33

**s.** = scilicet, 3/8  
**sentens**, meaning, 14/29  
**signifye**(tyf), 5/13. The last three letters are added above the line, evidently because of the word 'significatyf' in l. 14. But the 'Solucio,' which contained the word, has been omitted.  
**sithen**, since, 33/8  
**some**, sum, result, 40/17, 32  
**sowne**, pronounce, 6/29

**singillatim**, singly, 7/25  
**spices**, species, kinds, 34/4  
**spyl**, waste, 14/26  
**styde**, stead, 18/20  
**subtrahe**, subtract, 48/12; *pp.* **subtrayd**, 13/21  
**sythes**, times, 21/16

**tajȝt**, taught, 16/36  
**take**, *pp.* taken; **t. fro**, starting from, 45/22  
**taward**, toward, 23/34  
**thouȝt**, though, 5/20  
**trebille**, multiply by three, 49/26  
**twene**, two, 8/11  
**þow**, though, 25/15  
**þowȝt**, thought; **be þ.**, mentally, 28/4  
**þus** = *þis*, this, 20/33

**vny**, unite, 45/10

**wel**, wilt, 14/31  
**wete**, wit, 15/16; **wyte**, know, 8/38;  
     *pr.* 2 s. **wost**, 12/38  
**wex**, become, 50/18  
**where**, whether, 29/12  
**wher-thurghe**, whence, 49/15  
**worch**, work, 8/19; **wriȝh**, 8/35;  
     **wyrȝh**, 6/19; *imp.* s. **worch**, 15/9;  
     *pp.* **y-wroth**, 13/24  
**write**, written, 29/19; **y-write**, 16/1  
**wryrchynge** = *wyrchynge*, working, 30/4  
**wt**, with, 55/8

**y-broth**, brought, 21/18  
**ychon**, each one, 29/10  
**ydo**, done, added, 9/6  
**ylke**, same, 5/12  
**y-lyech**, alike, 22/23  
**y-myȝt**, been able, 12/2  
**y-nowȝt**, enough, 15/31; **y-novȝt**, 18/34  
**yove**, given, 45/33  
**yt**, that, 52/8  
**y-write**, v. **write**.  
**y-wroth**, v. **worch**.



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